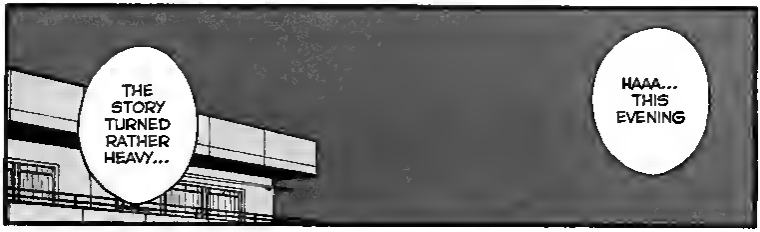
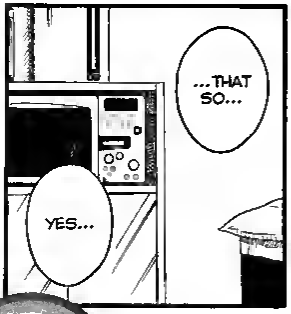
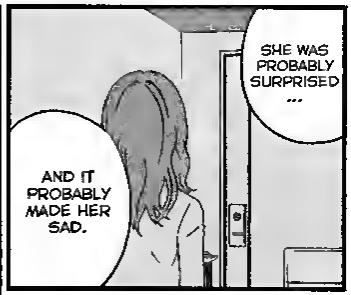

THE STORY TURNED RATHER HEAVY...
HAAA... THIS EVENING

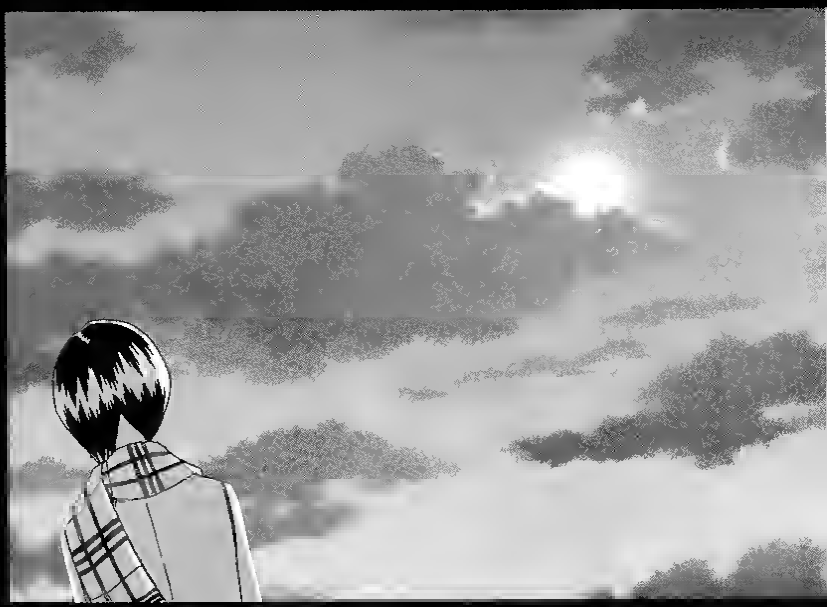

...THAT SO...
YES...

THOUGH I THOUGHT I WOULD RETURN THE CLOTHES ...
IN THE END... I MADE A CLEAN BREAK AND LEFT THAT PLACE...

SCENE 08
I WILL NOT FORGET...
ANRI WAS
NO LONGER ALONE.


SHE WAS PROBABLY SURPRISED ...
AND IT PROBABLY MADE HER SAD.

BUT,



SCENE 08

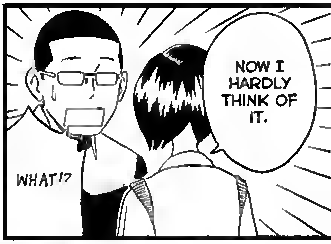
I WILL NOT FORGET...

SCANLATION BY RRAPO

...IN THOSE TIMES...
SHE WAS TOO BRIGHT FOR ME...
...BUT,
IT WASN'T LIKE ANRI -SAN WANTED TO BECOME DISTANT?
YEARNING FOR MARRIAGE, WASN'T SHE CAREFUL IN LOOKING AFTER YOU?
...YES, SHE WAS...
IN THAT CASE, WHY...
Our lives growing apart, finding myself jealous of her,
she was dazzling...
Engaged to be married... Anri was with him all the time.
I wasn't...
MOUNTAIN STREAM
THAT SO? IT WAS THAT KIND OF THING...
AND SO, YOU...
YES...
...SO IT WAS...

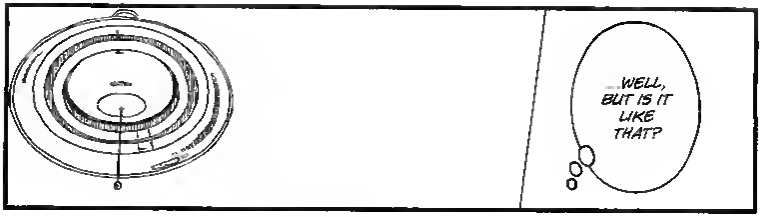
WEREN'T YOU SAYING YOU WANTED TO JUST NOW!?
EVEN IF YOU SAY THERE WAS SUCH A TIME,
THAT TIME IS NOT NOW.

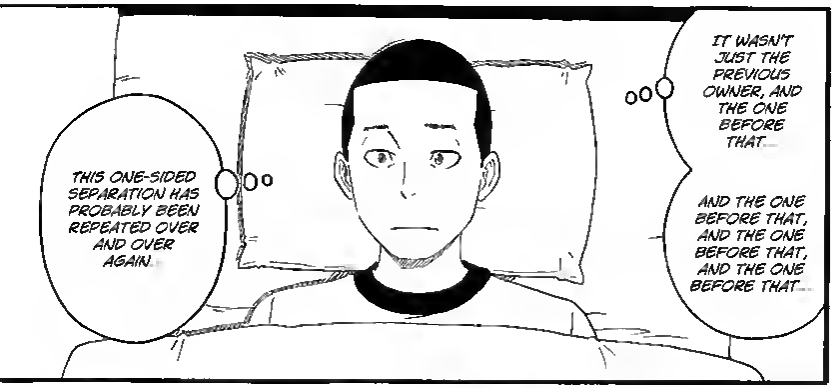
LONGED FOR MARRIAGE THAT MUCH...
HM? NOW?


NOW I HARDLY THINK OF IT.
WHAT!?

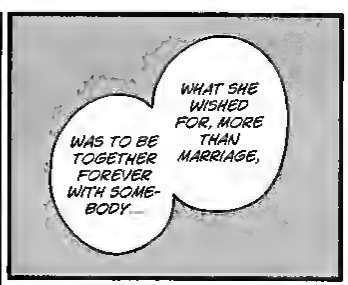
NOPE, I DON'T REALLY UNDER-STAND...
THIS HAS BEEN A RATHER LONG TALK, HASN'T IT...
WELL, SHALL WE GET TO BED?

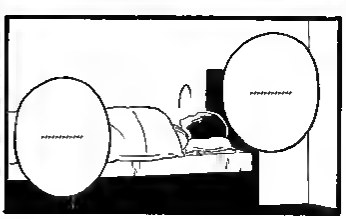
A WOMAN'S HEART
Or rather a cat's heart?


...Well, but is it like that?


This one-sided separation has probably been repeated over and over again...
It wasn't just the previous owner, and the one before that...
And the one before that, and the one before that, and the one before that...

...It seems I was mistaken.
Though I felt that Mill's heart was a bit of girl within the grandmother...


What she wished for, more than marriage,
was to be together forever with somebody...


.....
.....

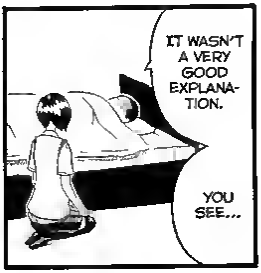
was a lonely girl too.
The 86-year old Miii
it was not so.

ZZZZ

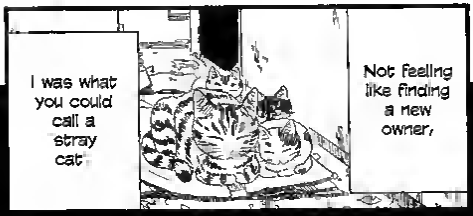
AKI-CHAN, SHOULDN'T WE TURN OFF THE LIGHTS SOON?
EH?

.....
...HEY, AKI-CHAN.
JUST NOW, THOUGH I SAID I WASN'T PARTICULARLY THINKING I WANTED TO GET MARRIED...

MORE TO THE STORY.
THERE IS IN FACT...

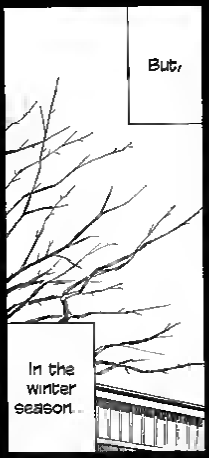

IT WASN'T A VERY GOOD EXPLANATION.
YOU SEE...

After that...


I was what you could call a stray cat.
Not feeling like finding a new owner,

For some reason, I didn't want to leave.
I didn't leave Fukuoka right away.

BRRR...
IS IT SPRING YET?


But,
In the winter season...

ALL KINDS OF SIDES
Points Given
Super Harry's
That being the case,
WELCOME~~
SHOULD I RENT... A PLACE IN HUMAN FORM?
BUT MONEY?
THIS IS NO GOOD...
SHOULD I NOT BE WORKING?
AH, HAKARI...
And though I worked...
.....
HAA...
HEY, SOMEBODY~~~!
AH, YES...

SUSHI ...
OH,
AH, YES...
COULD YOU GET THIS READY TO GO? A CUSTOMER CALLED FOR IT.
She'll probably be a good hostess...
That's right, Arri's guy runs a sushi bar.
ERR, I'M COMING~
NNNGH... THIS IS NO GOOD...
?
THERE WAS A PERSON JUST NOW, RATHER FRANTIC, ASKING US TO POST THIS IN THE STORE...
HAVE YOU SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
EH!? WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
EX, EXCUSE ME!!

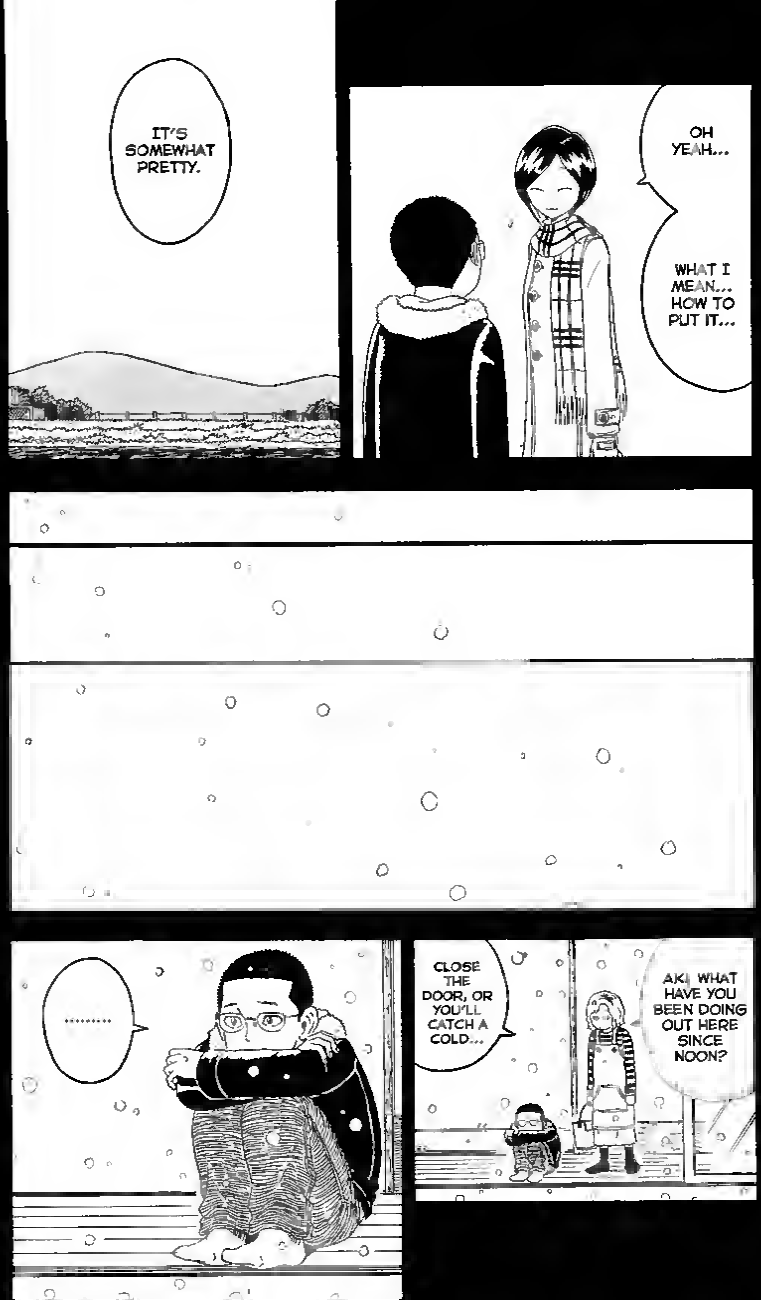
I was a mixture of different emotions...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT GIRL?
LOST CAT
In that moment, I...
080-XXXX-XXXX
I felt I couldn't stay in Fukuoka any longer...
I decided to go back to my home town, Saga.
SCREECH
I... I CAN'T!!
HUFF HUFF
...Over there,
HEY... YOU SHOULDN'T TOUCH STRAY CATS.
YOU MIGHT GET...

I met Aki-chan.
BY CHANCE, DO YOU HAVE A CAT?
HM? IS YOUR FAMILY AGAINST IT?
I LIKE THEM. BUT I DON'T KEEP ONE.
NO.
Aki-chan was still a child,
so he probably doesn't remember
DO YOU... LIKE CATS?
BUT... IT DIED...
WE USED TO KEEP ONE.
...WELL,
.....
SO THAT'S IT... I'M SORRY...

IF THERE WAS A CAT THAT NEVER DIED,
I WOULD CARE FOR IT...
I will never forget that
WHAT IF SUCH A CAT HAD A BAD PERSONALITY?
WHAT ABOUT A BAD PERSONALITY?
...WHAT IF,

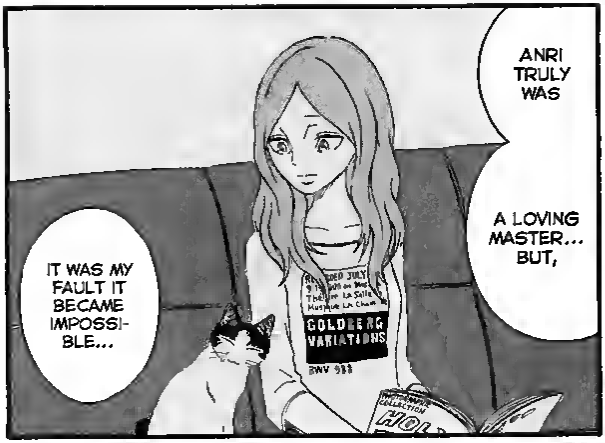
AND THEN DIE...
DON'T PEOPLE LIVE LONGER THAN ANIMALS!?
WHY... WHY IS IT THAT CATS LIVE ONLY TWENTY YEARS!?
I WILL GIVE TO YOU
A CAT THAT NEVER DIES.
...WELL THEN, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE.
EH?
...YOU TRY TO CARE FOR HER AND IF SHE TURNS OUT BAD YOU CAN GET RID OF HER...
NO... I WON'T THROW HER AWAY!!
REALLY.
TRUST ME.
WH... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

IF A CAT LIKE THAT WERE REALLY TO COME TO ME...
I WON'T...
IT WOULD BE MY CAT MY WHOLE LIFE LONG
HEY, THAT CAT...
WHAT KIND OF CAT IS IT?
MAKE IT GO THERE?
TOMORROW... TOWARDS THE EVENING, I WILL MAKE IT GO THERE
EH? OVER THERE...
...YOUR ...
HOUSE. WHERE IS IT?

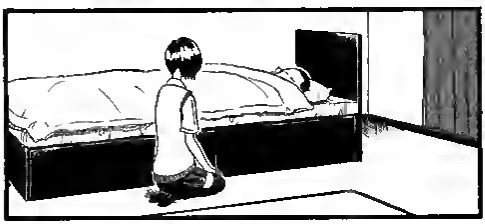

IT'S SOMEWHAT PRETTY.
OH YEAH...
WHAT I MEAN... HOW TO PUT IT...
.....
CLOSE THE DOOR, OR YOU'LL CATCH A COLD...
AKI, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING OUT HERE SINCE NOON?

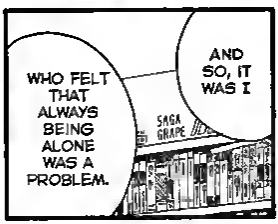
RUSTLE
SHE... SHE CAME!!
COME TO ME!!

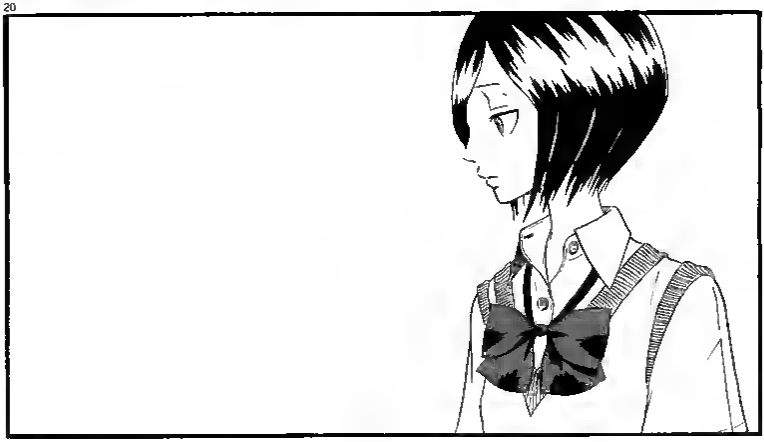
Yahahaha
WHADDYA MEAN, A CAT THAT DOESN'T DIE!?
WELL, SAGA IS FAMOUS FOR BAKENEKOS!! SHE MIGHT BE ONE!!
COME ON NOW, DEAR...
WOW! HAHAHA...
GIANFRANCO
THAT FINE, THOUGH.
YOU THERE... WILL YOU LIVE A LONG TIME?
MY GOODNESS— SHE NODDED YES!!
AHAHAHA
GIANFRANCO


ANRI TRULY WAS
A LOVING MASTER... BUT,
IT WAS MY FAULT IT BECAME IMPOSSI-BLE...
GOLDBERG VARIATIONS
BWV 988

.....
YOU KNOW, AKI -CHAN...

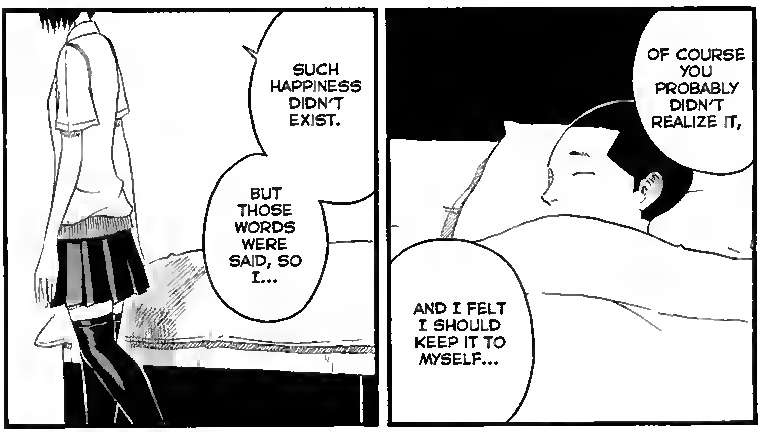



WHO FELT THAT ALWAYS BEING ALONE WAS A PROBLEM.
AND SO, IT WAS I
SAGA GRAPE



ZZZZ
THE WORDS IN THE VOWS.
BECAUSE I COULD HEAR
THAT WAS
I SAID I LIKED THE WESTERN STYLE MARRIAGE CEREMONY,
THOUGH JUST NOW...
BUT,
THOSE WORDS REACHED OUT TO ME.
THOSE WORDS...
I SWEAR TO LOVE THEE MY WHOLE LIFE LONG...

BECAME THE WORDS OF MY VOW.
THAT DAY,
"IT WOULD BE MY CAT MY WHOLE LIFE LONG"


SUCH HAPPINESS DIDN'T EXIST.
BUT THOSE WORDS WERE SAID, SO I...
OF COURSE YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T REALIZE IT,
AND I FELT I SHOULD KEEP IT TO MYSELF...

BECAUSE IF I WAS TO BE WITH THAT PERSON FOREVER, I COULD NOT HIDE IT...
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I DECIDED TO TELL A HUMAN THAT I WAS A BAKENEKO.
...EVEN NOW I AM TRULY SCARED.
THAT WAS SCARY.
TO THE VERY END I WAS WORRIED, IN FRONT OF YOUR PLACE...
EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SO LONG...
THE DAY YOU LEFT, I WONDERED WHEN I WOULD SEE YOU AGAIN...
WHEN I PRESSED THE DOOR-BELL,
I COULDN'T STOP SWEATING...
WHAT A TIME...
BUT,

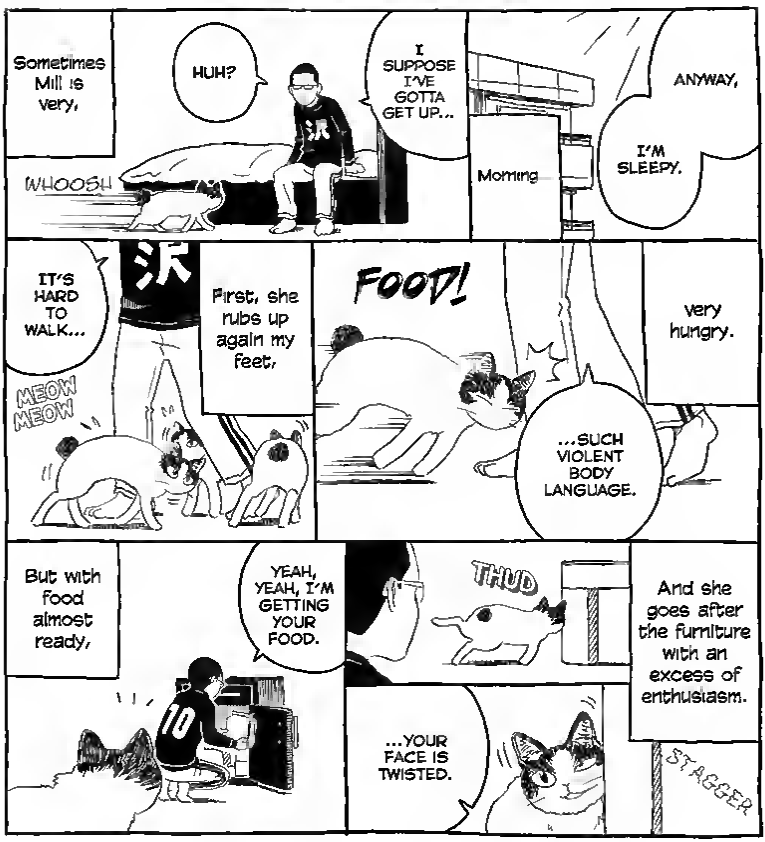
End of Mill, Vol 1.

(WATCHING MILL)

ミルをみる

---A Gentle Digression---

WATCHING A HUNGRY MILL



To be continued.

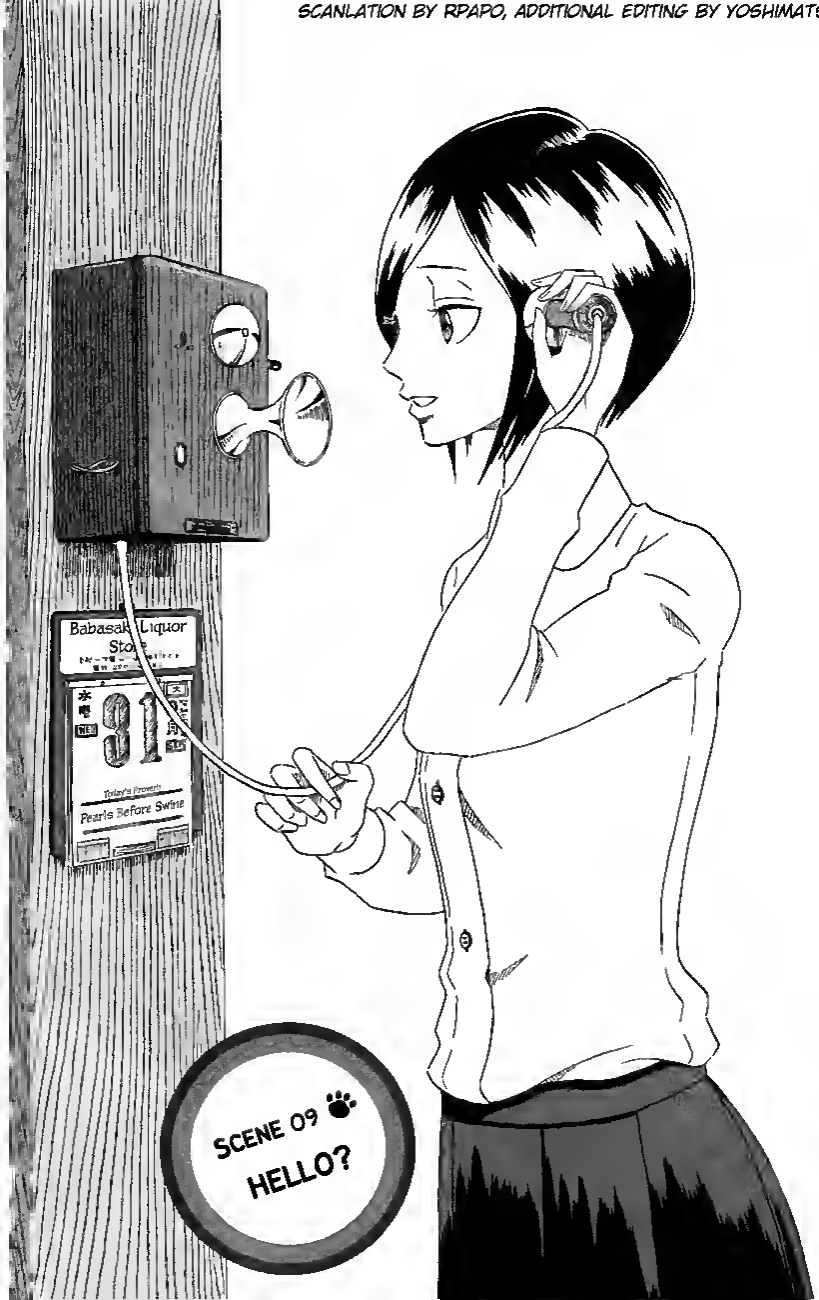
2
MILL
ミル
手原和憲

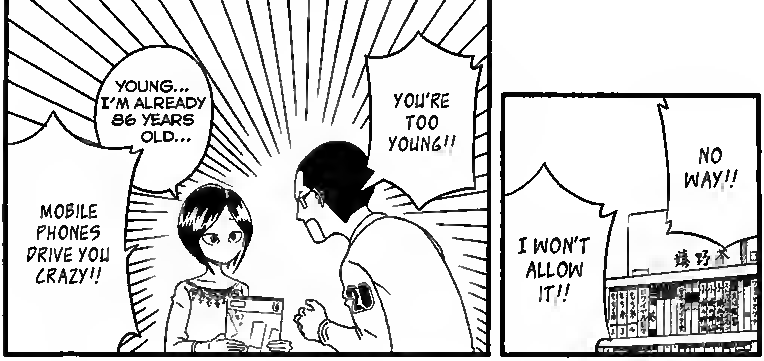
ミル MILL 2

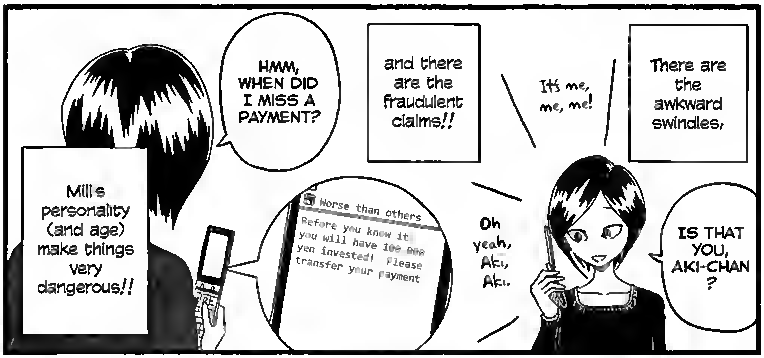
手原和憲
Tahara Kazunori

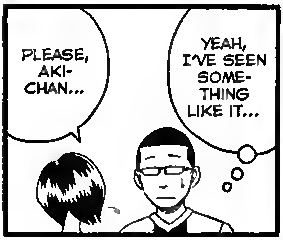
ERR...
?
DO WE HAVE THE DAY OFF?
GONDO GONDO RAIN GONDO
YAWN...
I'M SLEEPY!
SCENE 09
HELLO?
EH?
GOOD MORNING, AKI-CHAN... I'M SORRY, BUT ONCE YOU'RE UP,
THERE'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT...
I WAS THINKING ABOUT BUYING A MOBILE PHONE...
HUH!?
WHA... WHAT?
ERR, WELL...
ACTUALLY, I...
WELL...
GONDO GONDO RAIN GONDO

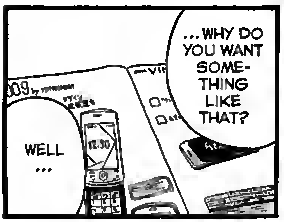
SCANLATION BY RPAPO, ADDITIONAL EDITING BY YOSHIMATSU.




YOUNG... I'M ALREADY 86 YEARS OLD...
YOU'RE TOO YOUNG!!
MOBILE PHONES DRIVE YOU CRAZY!!
NO WAY!!
I WON'T ALLOW IT!!

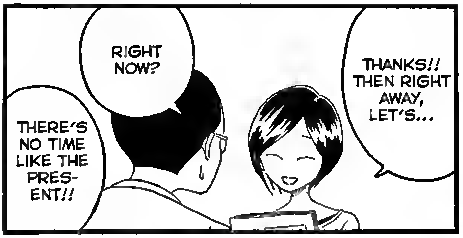

HMM, WHEN DID I MISS A PAYMENT?
and there are the fraudulent claims!!
It's me, me, me!
There are the awkward swindles,
Mill's personality (and age) make things very dangerous!!
More than others
Before you know it, you will have 100 000 yen invested! Please transfer your Payment
Oh yeah, Aki, Aki.
IS THAT YOU, AKI-CHAN ?

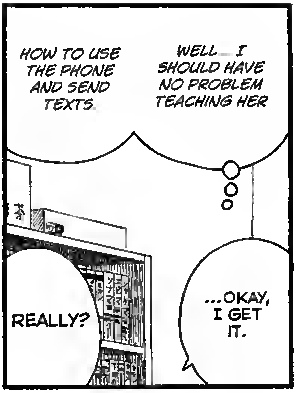

PLEASE, AKI-CHAN...
YEAH, I'VE SEEN SOME-THING LIKE IT...

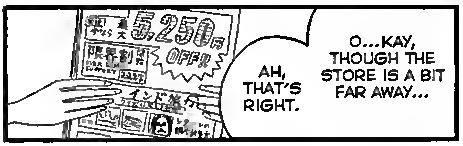

...WHY DO YOU WANT SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
WELL ...

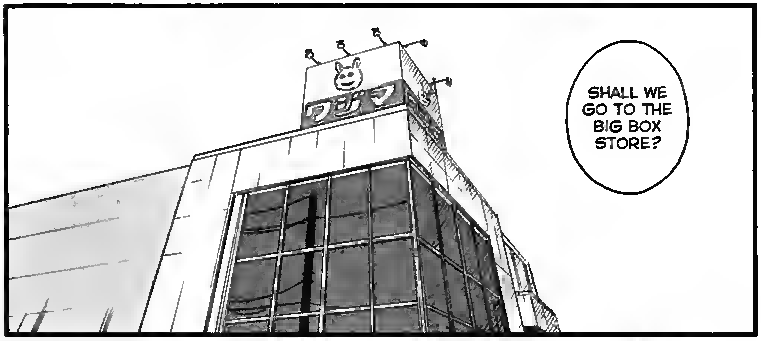
Hello, Imai Zumi-san? You've been robbed.
IT'S OKAY.
I'VE BEEN RESEARCH-ING IT ON THE EVENING NEWS.
THAT'.. THAT'S SCARY!!

I WAS THINKING THAT BOTH OF YOU
HAD CELL PHONES...
AH, YES...
THE DAY BEFORE YOUR TEST, WONDERING WHY YOU WERE SO LATE...
THAT TIME,
EH?
I WAS BEATEN BY THE SHOPKEEPER AFTER WORK...
YEP...
BESIDES...
I SEE... WE MADE YOU WAIT FOR NOTHING.
I HAVE ONE! THEY SAY ALL THE GIRLS HAVE ONE...
NO...
WHAT'S THIS, YOU DON'T HAVE A MOBILE PHONE?
This time,
BE-SIDES?
SFX: WAHAHAHAHA
HMM... SO THAT'S THE REAL REASON?
OR RATHER... WAS IT "AS A HIGH SCHOOL-ER"?
I WAS BEATEN!!
BY ONE OF MY SAME OLD AGE!!
CAN SEND E-MAILS TOO!!
WELL, NOW I
HOLLY HOCK

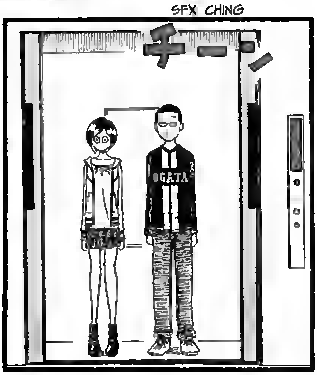

RIGHT NOW?
THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRES-ENT!!
THANKS!! THEN RIGHT AWAY, LET'S...


HOW TO USE THE PHONE AND SEND TEXTS
WELL... I SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM TEACHING HER
REALLY?
...OKAY, I GET IT.

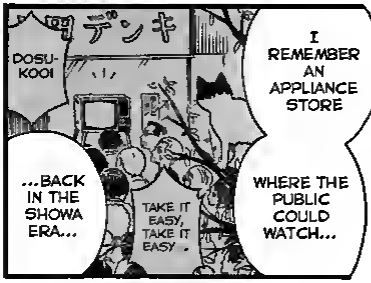

5,250円
OFF!!
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
O...KAY, THOUGH THE STORE IS A BIT FAR AWAY...


SHALL WE GO TO THE BIG BOX STORE?

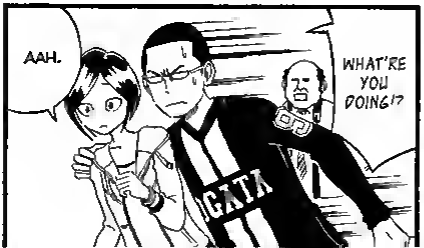
...OOH...


SFX CHING
チーン

SFX: NOISY
THIS IS HUGE!!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE COME TO AN APPLIANCE STORE LIKE THIS.
THAT SO?
WE'RE SWIMMING IN RED INK!
BUT THAT'S NOT YOUR PROBLEM!!!!


I REMEMBER AN APPLIANCE STORE
WHERE THE PUBLIC COULD WATCH...
TAKE IT EASY, TAKE IT EASY.
...BACK IN THE SHOWA ERA...
DOSU-KOOI

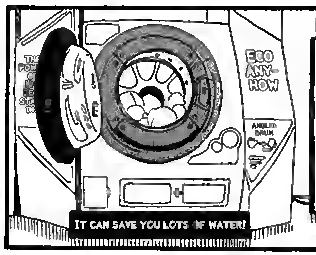
THEN SHALL WE GO TO THE MOBILE PHONE CORNER?
HUH?

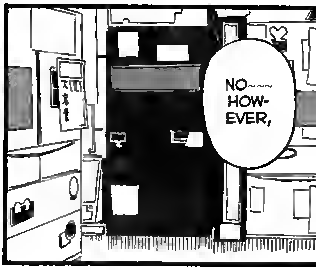

AAH.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?

And over here you can find the latest from Intel
I see.
OH.

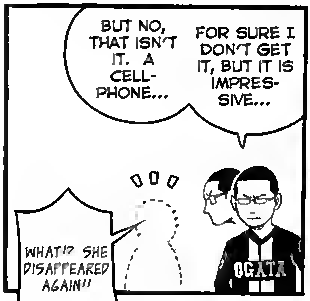
THAT COULD BE QUITE A CHALLENGE.
. WE DON'T HAVE ONE, SO OVER THERE FIRST.
Which one's "A"?
THOUGH I'M THINKING ABOUT TRYING A COMPUTER.
FIGHT TO THE LITTER-MOST
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
YOU MUSTN'T LET YOURSELF BE CAUGHT BY THE SALESMEN.
SFX. WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
IT'S NOT FOR EATING!
HM? THIS IS A "MAUSU".
SO TRUE... AH, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THIS?
LIKE A MOUSE.
A "MAUSU"?
A MOUSE ...
Home Electric
?
NO MAYBES!!
Really
Already Miracu-lous
I WOULDN'T EAT IT!!
IF IT WERE REAL, THEN MAYBE!!

HUGE CLEAR ANCE
TAKE
I THINK I COULD SPEND ALL DAY
HOW!?
Dirt cheap.
SHOCKING!
DEADLY SUCTION
LIKE THIS AND NOT GET TIRED.

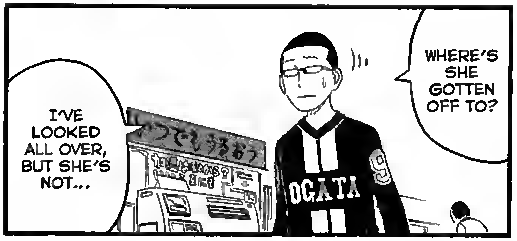

ECO ANY-HOW
IT CAN SAVE YOU LOTS OF WATER!


NO~~~ HOW-EVER,

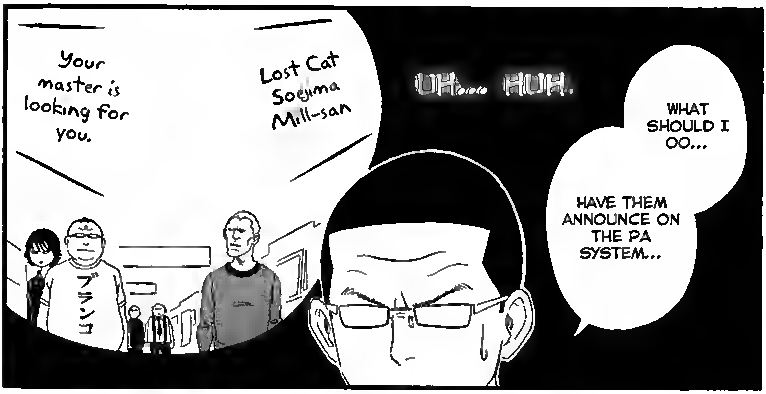
Revolutionary flavor
Rice King
So good, you won't stop crying
I MAY HAVE BROUGHT HER TO A BAD PLACE...
LOOK, LOOK AKI-CHAN!!
IT COOKS FLUFFY ALL THE WAY THROUGH!!

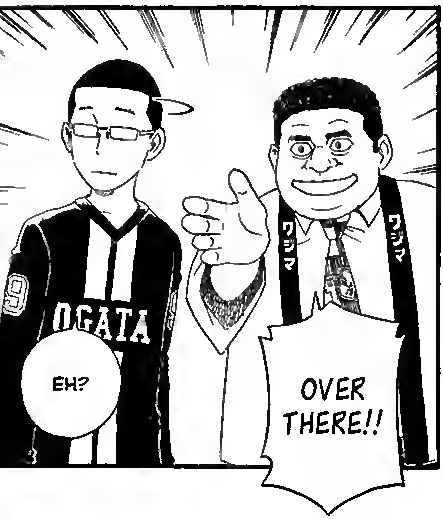

BUT NO, THAT ISN'T IT. A CELL-PHONE...
FOR SURE I DON'T GET IT, BUT IT IS IMPRES-SIVE...
WHAT!? SHE DISAPPEARED AGAIN!!
OKATA

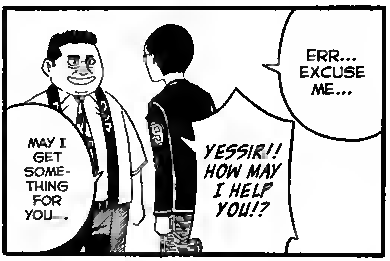
So good, you won't stop crying
DIAMOND KETTLE...
I DON'T QUITE GET IT, BUT IT'S IMPRES-SIVE...
Diamond

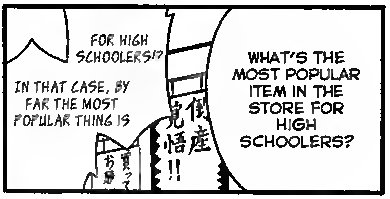

WHERE'S SHE GOTTEN OFF TO?
I'VE LOOKED ALL OVER, BUT SHE'S NOT...
OGATA

...JEEZ...
ALL JAPAN
(AND OUTLYING ISLANDS)
FREE PIERCING & SETUP


Your master is looking for you.
Lost Cat Soejima Mill-san
UH... HUH.
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
HAVE THEM ANNOUNCE ON THE PA SYSTEM...
ブランコ


EH?
OVER THERE!!
OGATA
ワジマ
ワジマ


ERR... EXCUSE ME...
YESSIR!! HOW MAY I HELP YOU!?
MAY I GET SOME-THING FOR YOU...

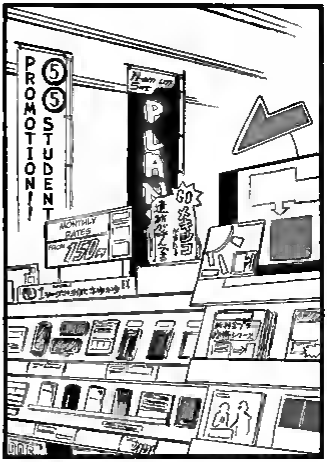

WHAT'S THE MOST POPULAR ITEM IN THE STORE FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS?
FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS!?
IN THAT CASE, BY FAR THE MOST POPULAR THING IS
俊悟座!!
買って

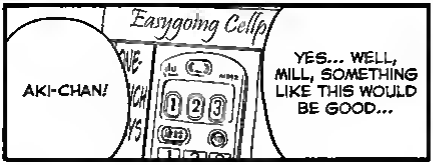
SFX: DAZED
ポワー
OH, AKI-CHAN.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING...
FOUND HER!!
WITH THIS THING. IT'S LIKE A HEATED TABLE OR PURE CATNIP!!
YEAH... I WAS ALREADY IN HEAVEN
IS IT LIKE THAT!?
ぐでーん
SFX: IDIOTIC GRIN

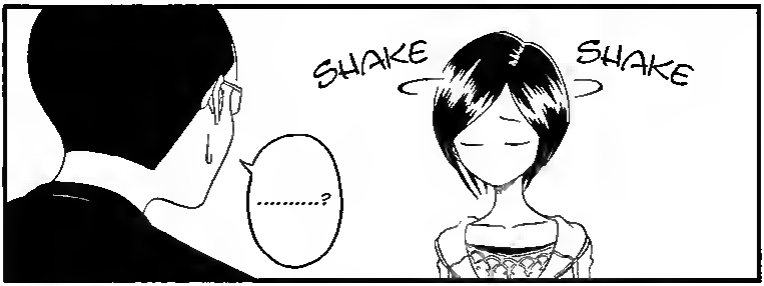
PURRR...
STOP IT!! IF YOU'D TURNED BACK INTO A CAT—
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A DISASTER!!
I DIDN'T FALL ASLEEP THOUGH...

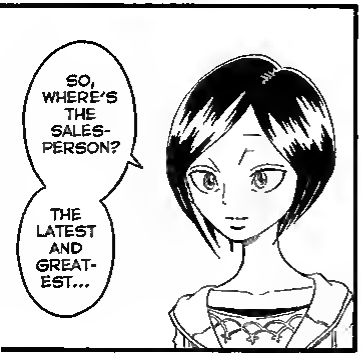
COME ON, LET'S GO.
NEW FEATURES
THAT THING... FELT SOOO GOOD...
おまかせ

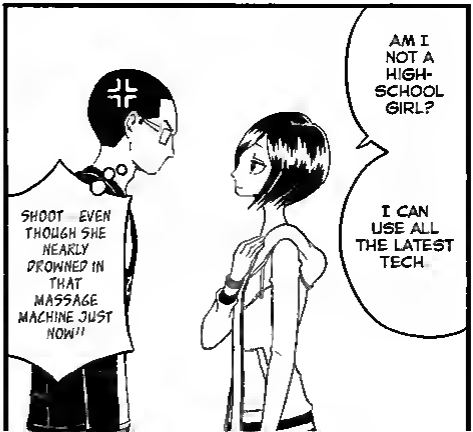
Welcome
FINALLY TO THE POINT...
WOW, THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT ONES!!


55 STUDENT PROMOTION!!
PLAN
MONTHLY RATES FROM 150m

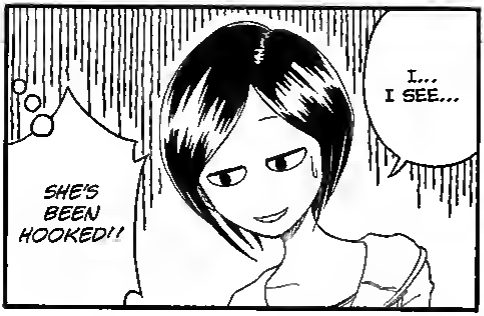

Easygoing Cellp
AKI-CHAN!
YES... WELL, MILL, SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD BE GOOD...

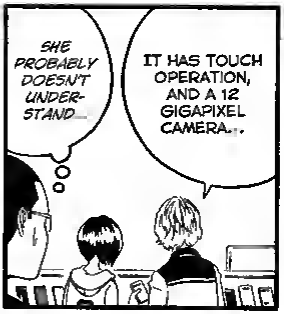

SHAKE
SHAKE
.....?

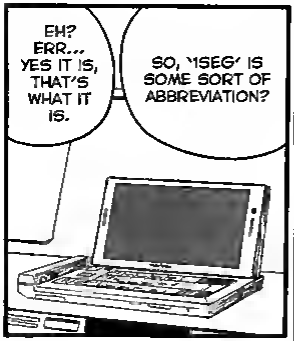

SO, WHERE'S THE SALES-PERSON?
THE LATEST AND GREAT-EST...

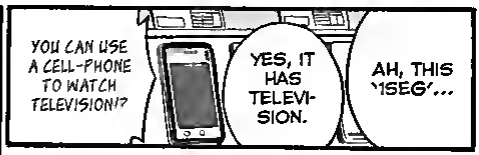

AM I NOT A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL?
I CAN USE ALL THE LATEST TECH
SHOOT EVEN THOUGH SHE NEARLY DROWNED IN THAT MASSAGE MACHINE JUST NOW!!

IT'S GOT A CAMERA ...
.....
...YOU'RE IN LUCK ...IT'S THE LATEST.
30-DAY LIMITED TIME OFFER
0000 YEN

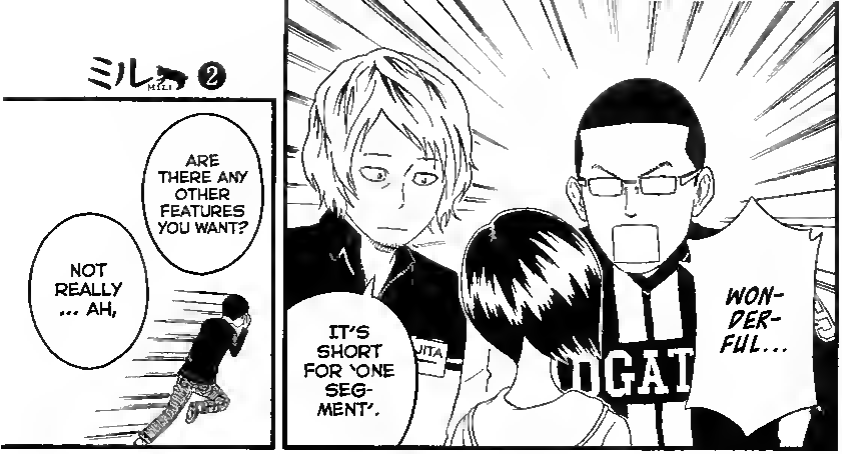

I... I SEE...
SHE'S BEEN HOOKED!!

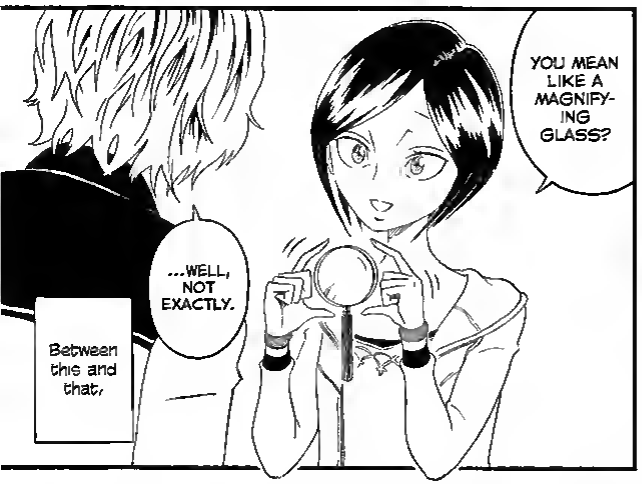

SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T UNDER-STAND...
IT HAS TOUCH OPERATION, AND A 12 GIGAPIXEL CAMERA...

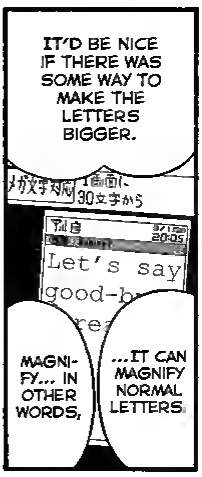

EH? ERR... YES IT IS, THAT'S WHAT IT IS.
SO, '1SEG' IS SOME SORT OF ABBREVIATION?

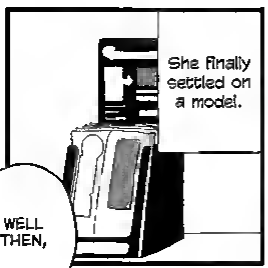

YOU CAN USE A CELL-PHONE TO WATCH TELEVISION!?
YES, IT HAS TELEVI-SION.
AH, THIS '1SEG'...

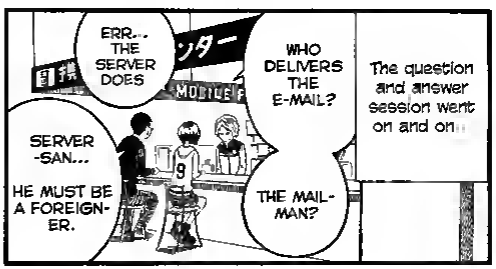
SORRY, BUT I DID...
AKI -CHAN, YOU DIDN'T KNOW!?
THIS IS AN IN-CREDIBLE TIME WE LIVE IN...


ARE THERE ANY OTHER FEATURES YOU WANT?
NOT REALLY ... AH,
IT'S SHORT FOR 'ONE SEG-MENT'.
WON-DER-FUL...


YOU MEAN LIKE A MAGNIFY-ING GLASS?
...WELL, NOT EXACTLY.
Between this and that,

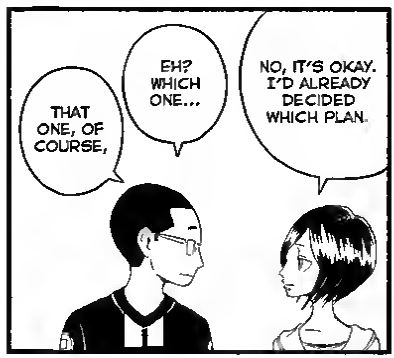

IT'D BE NICE IF THERE WAS SOME WAY TO MAKE THE LETTERS BIGGER.
Let's say
MAGNI-FY... IN OTHER WORDS,
...IT CAN MAGNIFY NORMAL LETTERS.


She finally settled on a model.
WELL THEN,

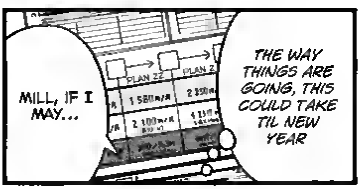

ERR... THE SERVER DOES
WHO DELIVERS THE E-MAIL?
The question and answer session went on and on...
SERVER -SAN... HE MUST BE A FOREIGN-ER.
THE MAIL-MAN?

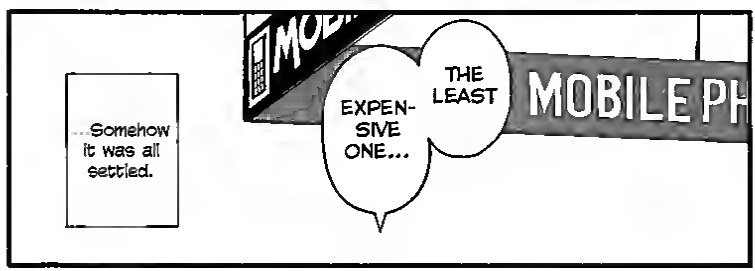
SORRY, SALES-GUY ... YOU LOOK REALLY TIRED...
WELL, I'M GLAD SHE DECIDED.
Yes ma'am.
Ah, could I have it in this color, antique blue? So

I'LL TAKE THIS ONE.
THE CHEAPEST ONE.
...YES MA'AM.

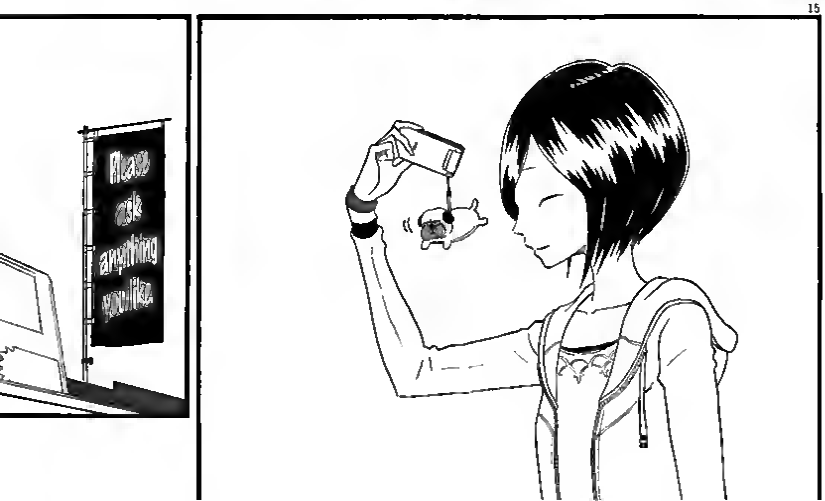

NO, IT'S OKAY. I'D ALREADY DECIDED WHICH PLAN.
EH? WHICH ONE...
THAT ONE, OF COURSE,

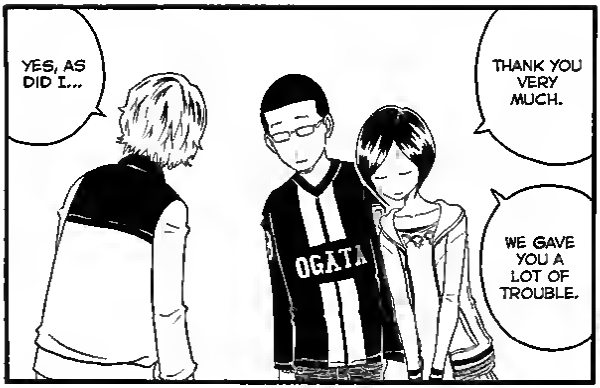
NO WAY!!
WELL, WHICH RATE PLAN WOULD YOU LIKE...


MILL, IF I MAY...
THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, THIS COULD TAKE TIL NEW YEAR

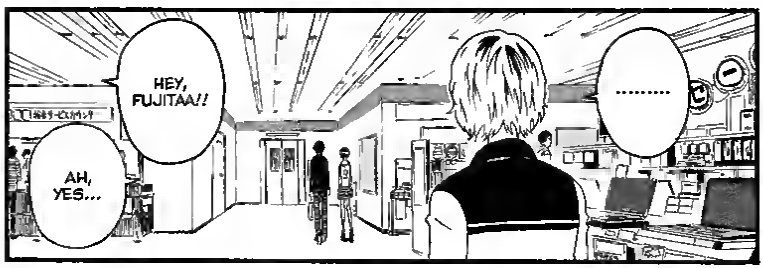

...Somehow it was all settled.
EXPEN-SIVE ONE...
THE LEAST
MOBILE PH

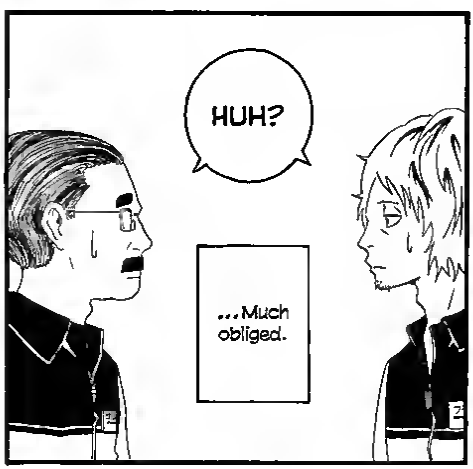
EH!? WHA, WHAT THE...
IS YOUR FREE STRAP.
AND HERE
WELL THEN, HERE'S THE MAIN ITEM.
PLUS AN ADAPTER.
...MILL, THERE'S NO NEED TO PLAY THE COMEDIENNE.
THERE'S NO WAY I'M STRIPPING FOR FREE!!
AH, THAT'S WHAT IT IS?
PHEW...
Look, I've attached it.
A 'STRAP', IS AN CELLPHONE ACCESSORY.

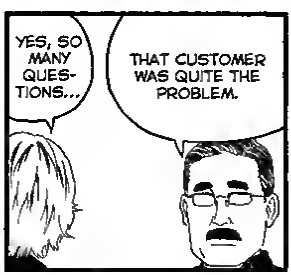

Please ask anything you like.

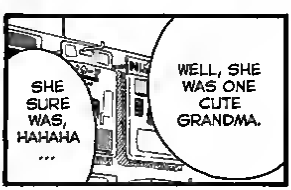

YES, AS DID I...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WE GAVE YOU A LOT OF TROUBLE.
OGATA

...WELL THEN, AFTER ALL THAT,

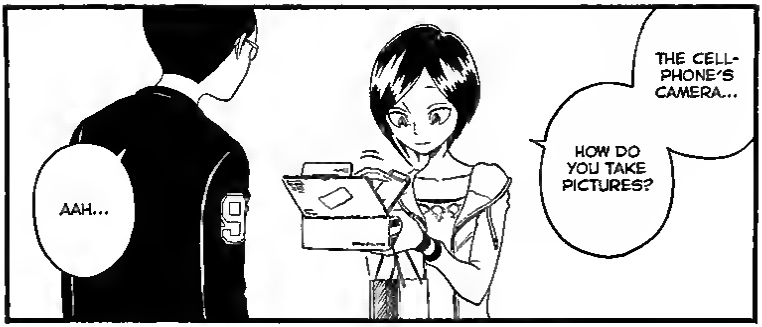

HEY, FUJITAA!!
AH, YES...
.....


HUH?
...Much obliged.

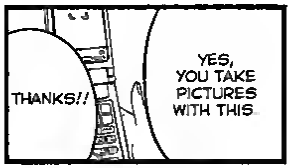

YES, SO MANY QUES-TIONS...
THAT CUSTOMER WAS QUITE THE PROBLEM.


SHE SURE WAS, HAHAHA ...
WELL, SHE WAS ONE CUTE GRANDMA.

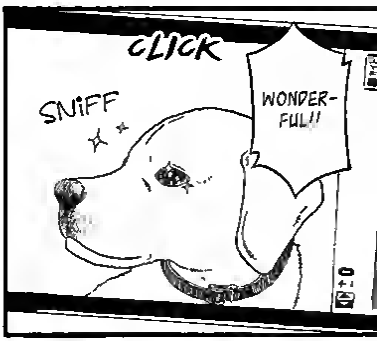
WHAT-EVER.
OGATA
AH, AKI-CHAN!!
WH, WHAT?
BUT... WILL SHE BE ABLE TO USE THE CELL-PHONE...
IF IT WAS A WASTE OF MONEY, THEN SO BE IT
SHE WAS A CAT WHO GOT ALONG WITH DOGS...
COME TO THINK OF IT, EVEN IN THE OLD DAYS
EH? YOU LIKE DOGS?
CAN I TOUCH THEM?
SOME DOGS!!
WOOF WOOF
GO AHEAD
GO AHEAD
I LOVE THEM!!
?
OH YEAH, AKI-CHAN, GET IT OUT!!


AAH...
HOW DO YOU TAKE PICTURES?
THE CELL-PHONE'S CAMERA...

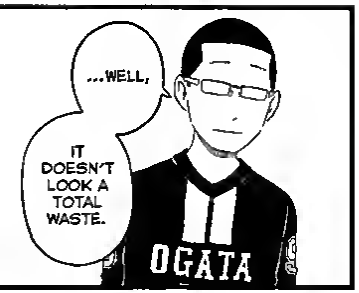
EXCUSE ME, CAN I TAKE PICTURES?
Go ahead Go ahead


YES, YOU TAKE PICTURES WITH THIS.
THANKS!!

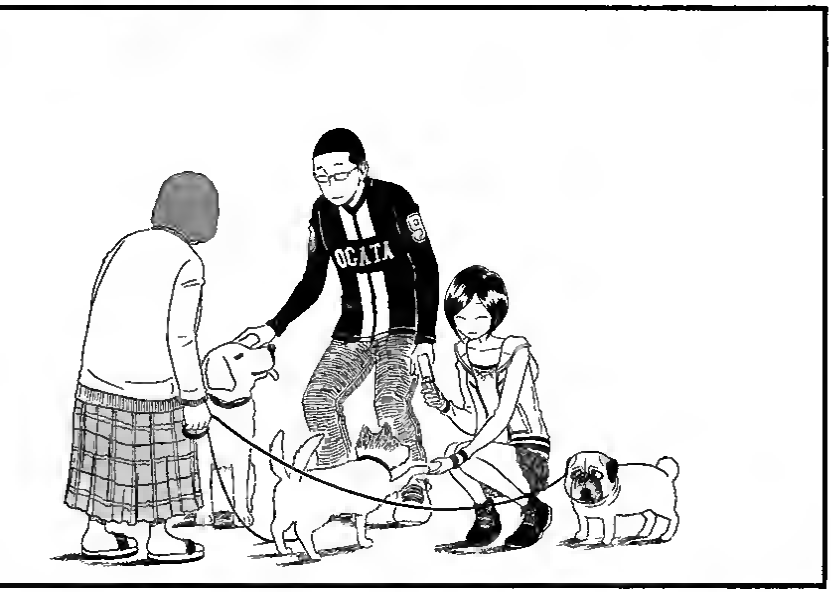
.....
You can take some of me too
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK


CLICK
SNIFF
WONDER-FUL!!

CLICK
WHAT AN EXPRES-SION!!
BLUSH

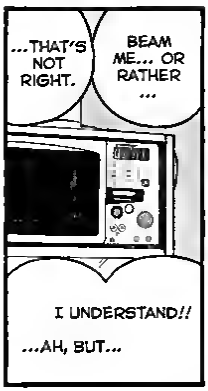

...WELL,
IT DOESN'T LOOK A TOTAL WASTE.
OGATA

Ahh, she's liking that st-whatever it is

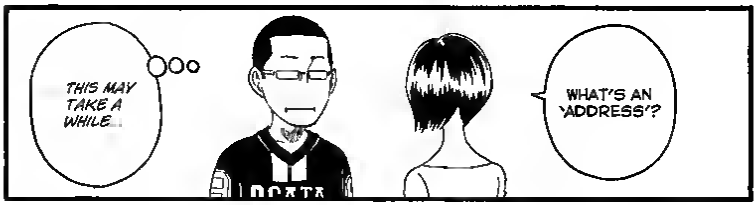

OGATA

HEY, DON'T LICK MY GLASSES

HOW DO I PLAY IT...
SCRAPE SCRATCH
You can't stick it in.
CALM DOWN.
HAAA... WHAT A RELIEF.
HM? WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS...
CD?
WELL, SHALL WE TAKE A LOOK AT IT?
AH, HELLO?
ARE YOU IN GOOD SPIRITS?
...YES... AS YOU CAN SEE...
FIRST, TRY TO CALL MY CELL-PHONE.
BEEP, BEEP
OH, OKAY...
?
AH, THAT'S ENOUGH!!
THE WAY YOU ENTER TEXT...
OKAY, SHOULD WE TRY E-MAIL NEXT?


...THAT'S NOT RIGHT.
BEAM ME... OR RATHER ...
I UNDERSTAND!!
...AH, BUT...

I'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW TO DO IT FOR MYSELF!
I can't be only taught by you
YES... THEN JUST BEAM ME YOUR ADDRESS...


THIS MAY TAKE A WHILE...
WHAT'S AN 'ADDRESS'?

.....

カーカー

COME TO THINK OF IT, WE HAVEN'T HAD LUNCH YET
I'M GETTING HUNGRY...

♪ RRRTRN-NGGG
I SENT ONE!!
OH, OOH... WHO IS IT...
AT TEN O'CLOCK AT NIGHT?
AKI-CHAN!!
HUH...
MILL
GOOD MORNING
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE FOR LUNCH?
EEK...
AND THEN I HAVE TO ANSWER BACK...
YOU HAVE TO ANSWER MY MAIL!!
AH!? YOU CAN'T. YOU CAN'T!!
...IT ISN'T NOON ANYMORE...
NO... HAVE MERCY ON ME ALREADY!!

SCENE 10
THAT HURTS!
I'M FALLING FOR YOU.
HEY... WHAT DID THE ONE LEAF SAY TO THE OTHER?
T/N AKI'S NAME MEANS "FALL"
I'M SICK AND TIRED OF IT!
I'VE HEARD JOKES LIKE THOSE A TRILLION TIMES SINCE I WAS A KID!!
YES, FALL HAS FALLEN,
AKI... AKI...
SHUT UP!!
COOP
HEY, GIMME A REAC-TION!!
AREN'T YOU IN A GOOD MOOD!!
THAT'S ENOUGH "AKI AKI"!!

SCENE 10

THAT HURTS!

Searching for Pink Nose!!

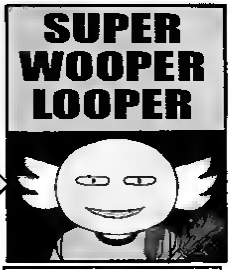
We will be searching high and low for a pink-nosed black cat (female, living on campus) during the school festival!!

We are giving guests who help in finding her

tickets to the live concert of "SWL"

on the last day of the festival.

By all means help out!!

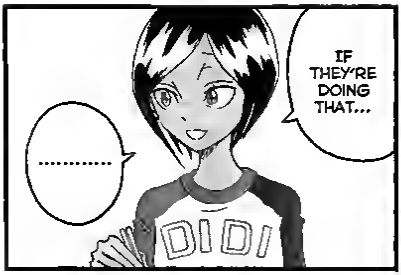


Inquiries:

CCC CLUBROOM
042-XXX-XXXX

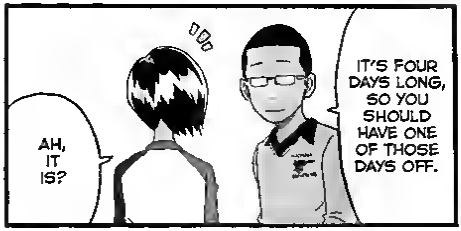
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

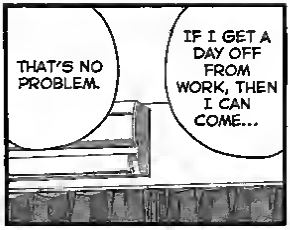
EH,
A SCHOOL FESTIVAL?
SFX: CHANTING
そいや そいや
...NO, IT'S NOT THAT KIND OF FESTIVAL...
YOU'LL BE CARRYING ONE ON YOUR SHOULDER?
A shrine
This dish is really good
YEP. IT'S A WAYS OFF YET, THOUGH ...
WON'T YOU COME TOO?
WELL, IT'S SELF EXPLANATORY IT'S A COLLEGE FESTIVAL.
YE-ES, THOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF THING IT IS.
A FESTIVAL... YOU MEAN LIKE,
佐賀の茶
LIVE
THERE WILL BE CLUBS, EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS...
AND THEY WILL HAVE FOOD STALLS.
OH? WELL THEN...
WHAT IS SHE THINKING...
OH WELL, WHAT A SHAME.
I WAS THINKING OF TAKING PICTURES OF THE DECORATIONS...

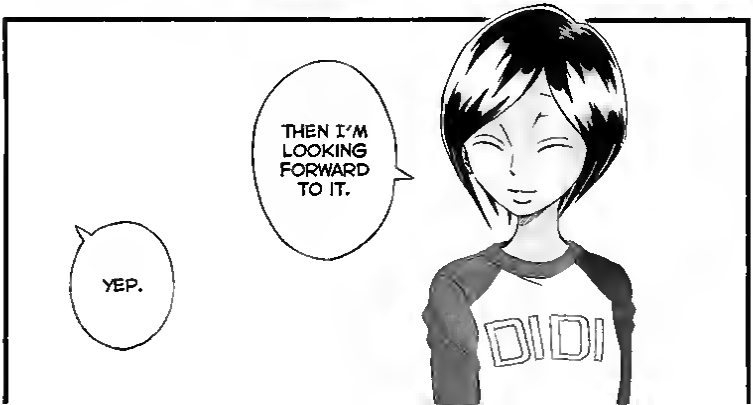

IF THEY'RE DOING THAT...
.....
DIDI

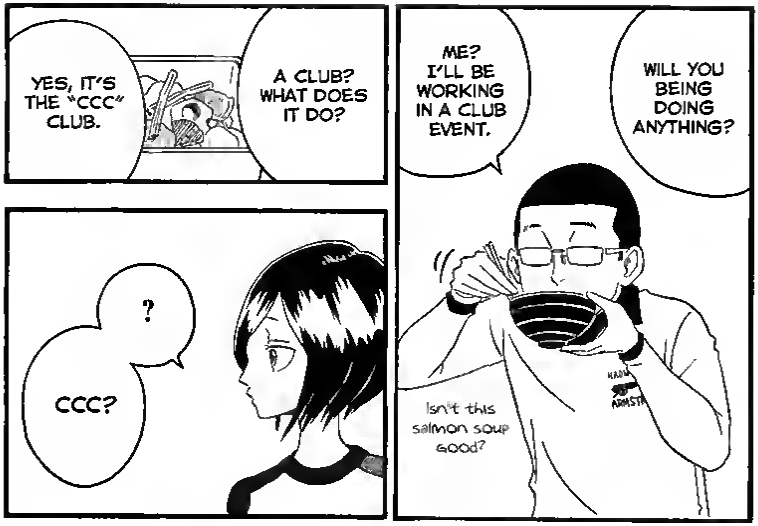
DO FOOD CARTS COME OUT TOO?
YEP, QUITE A FEW.
餃子の KENGO
ONIONS APLENTY
STEAK AS YOU LIKE
Kimchi
Mochi
Yakisoba
DEEP FRIED SHRIMP & FAVA BEANS
SALE

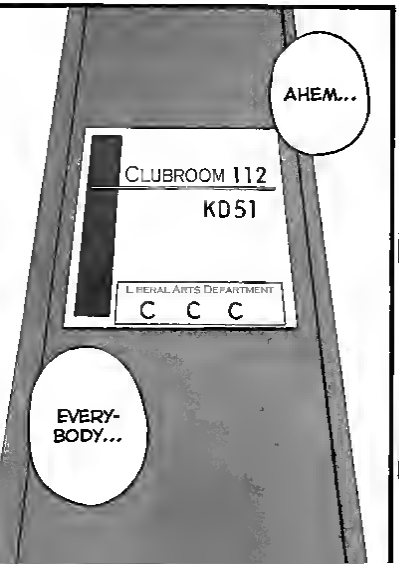
?
AH, THEN WOULD YOU LET ME GO?
UHH, COME ON OVER.
DIDI

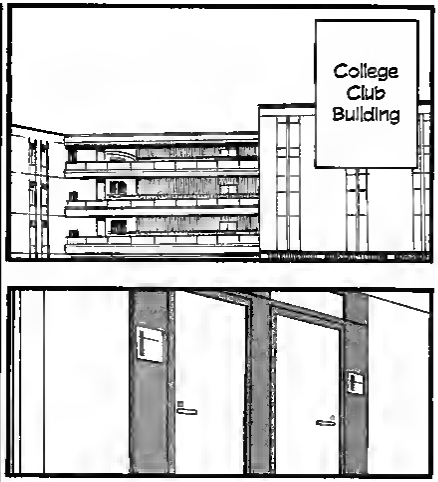

IT'S FOUR DAYS LONG, SO YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE OF THOSE DAYS OFF.
AH, IT IS?

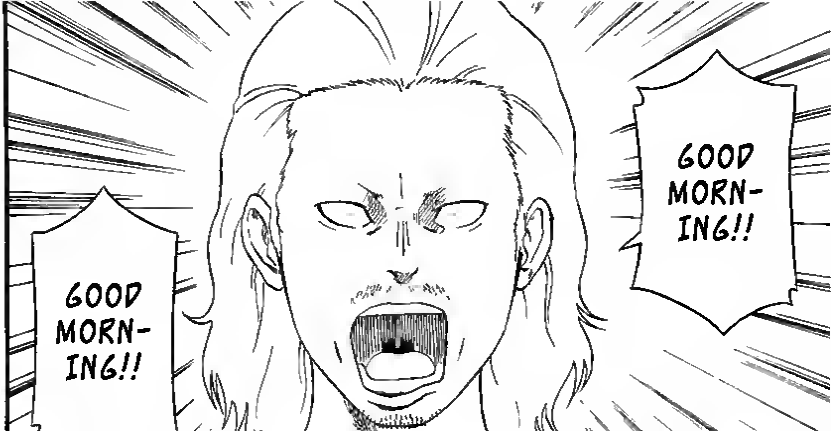

IF I GET A DAY OFF FROM WORK, THEN I CAN COME...
THAT'S NO PROBLEM.


THEN I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
YEP.
DIDI


YES, IT'S THE "CCC" CLUB.
A CLUB? WHAT DOES IT DO?
?
CCC?
ME? I'LL BE WORKING IN A CLUB EVENT.
WILL YOU BEING DOING ANYTHING?
Isn't this salmon soup good?


AHEM...
CLUBROOM 112
KD51
LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT
C C C
EVERY-BODY...


College Club Building

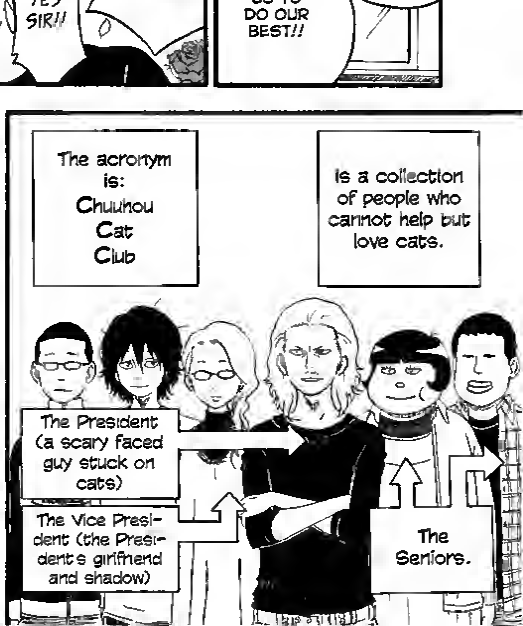

GOOD MORN-ING!!
GOOD MORN-ING!!

...And so, the CCC
YES SIR!!
FOR THE SAKE OF THAT KITTY -CAT!!

UMM, WE HAVE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO PREPARE FOR THE COLLEGE FESTIVAL.
ANYWAY, I WANT US TO DO OUR BEST!!

WELL, I...
THEN YOU'RE QUALIFIED TO JOIN!!
WHAT!? YOU KEPT A CAT BACK HOME!?
Incidentally, it was Haruomi who invited me to join.

WHAT THE...
FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL BE A CAT SOLDIER TOO!!
He loves cats to the point of obsession.


The acronym is:
Chuunou
Cat
Club
is a collection of people who cannot help but love cats.
The President (a scary faced guy stuck on cats)
The Vice President (the President's girlfriend and shadow)
The Seniors.

Sharing cat pictures and information
SO CU-UUUUUUUUTTTTTT-TEEEE!!

Showing off cat goods,
BWAA HA HA...

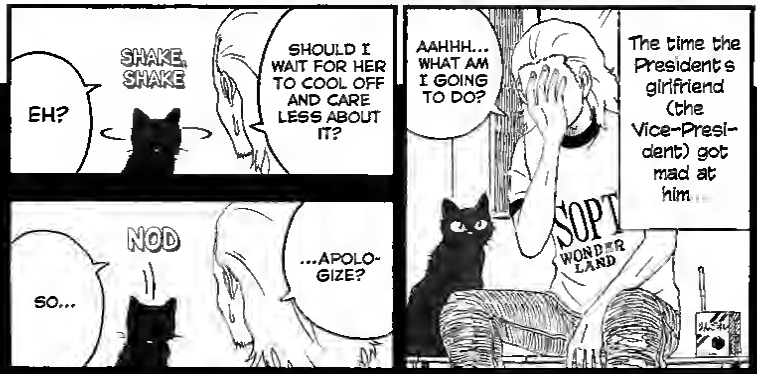
With only six club members, our activities are very simple.
For example, observing the college's cats
JUSCO'S FOUR KITTENS SURE GREW UP HEALTHY...

Well, in talking about this year's event beforehand...
EVERY-BODY ON THE LAST DAY...
We had to explain about "Pink Nose."

AH, ABOUT THAT...
WE'VE GOT DUTY SHIFTS DURING THE FESTIVAL.
we do really trivial things.

OH, EX-CELLENT!!
I'VE FINALIZED THE DUTY ROSTER.

How to explain as a cat she could sense our feelings,
that is, we felt she could understand what people said.
Though by all rights her nose should be black, for some reason her's is pink.
Some things have happened.
In spite of how overwhelmingly popular she is within our club she isn't snobbish.


EH?
SHAKE SHAKE
SHOULD I WAIT FOR HER TO COOL OFF AND CARE LESS ABOUT IT?
AAHHH... WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
The time the President's girlfriend (the Vice-President) got mad at him...
SOPT WONDER LAND
SO...
NOD
...APOLOGIZE?

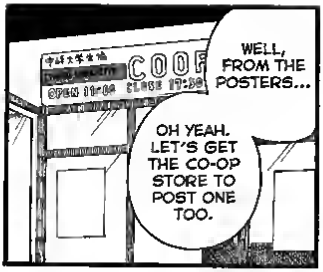
Later on the Vice President told us that if he hadn't bowed down before her like that, she would have left him.
BAM
I WILL BOW DOWN BEFORE HER!!
GO FOR IT I GET IT!!

Pink Nose hasn't been seen for half a year, and for us that is a serious matter.
And not only the President. Others of the seniors have had similar experiences...
Everybody was resigning themselves... but,
OH... NO WAY...!?
WELL NOW.
OUCH... IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ABOUT 15 YEARS OLD...
THAT'S OLD FOR A STRAY...
Worried, we looked through the club's re-
We look and listen around every day but she is nowhere to be found.
Haruomi was the only one who didn't lose hope entirely.
WE STILL DON'T KNOW FOR SURE!!
THAT WAS GOOD WORK TODAY!!
BUT WHY IS HE LIKE THAT?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN HIM AND PINK NOSE?
he took the initiative and planned the project.
Proposing that we have a campus-wide event during the festival.

LET'S DO IT!!
SO, SHALL WE GO AND HANG THESE POSTERS?
LET'S SELL PAW-SHAPED NIKUMAN.
WHAT THE!? ARE YOU CRAZY!?
OH... THAT'S RIGHT...
WHAT WILL WE DO IF WE FIND HER BEFORE THE FESTIVAL?
CAT PHOTO DISPLAY BOARD
POST THEM ALL OVER HERE!!!
HEY, AKI! LET'S GO.
AH, SURE...
FRANK

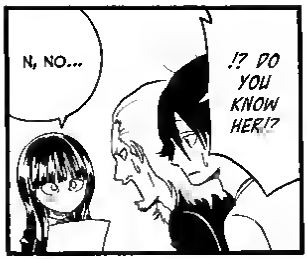
POST THEM ALL OVER HERE!!!
CLOSE

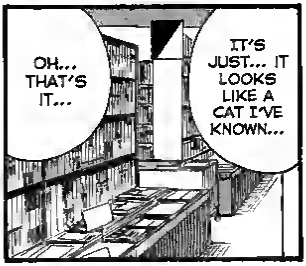
BOOKS
EXCUSE US!!
YE, YES...!!


COOP
OPEN 11:00
CLOSE 17:00
WELL, FROM THE POSTERS...
OH YEAH. LET'S GET THE CO-OP STORE TO POST ONE TOO.

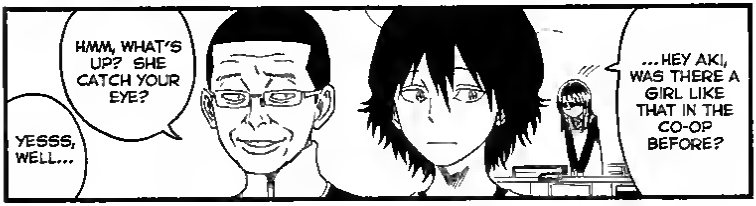
HUH?
WHAAA !!

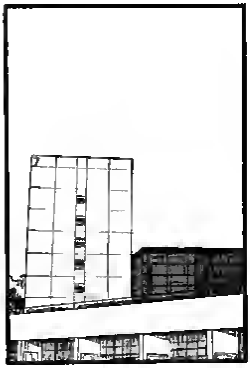
COULD YOU POST THIS ON YOUR COUNTER FOR US?
AH, SURE...

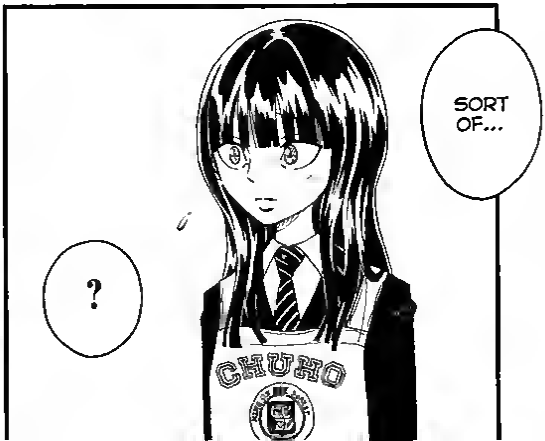

N, NO...
!? DO YOU KNOW HER!?

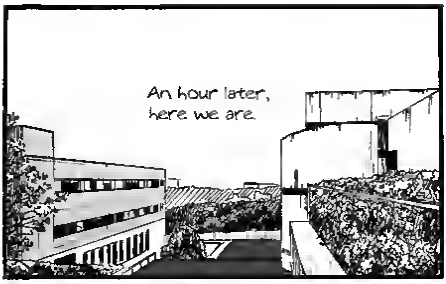

OH... THAT'S IT...
IT'S JUST... IT LOOKS LIKE A CAT I'VE KNOWN...

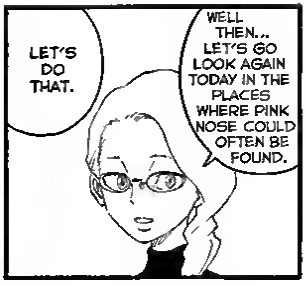
TH...
THIS...


HMM, WHAT'S UP? SHE CATCH YOUR EYE?
YESSS, WELL...
...HEY AKI, WAS THERE A GIRL LIKE THAT IN THE CO-OP BEFORE?



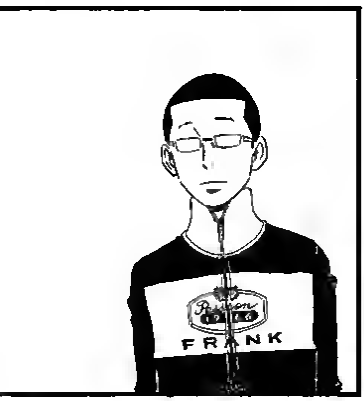

SORT OF...
?
CHUKO

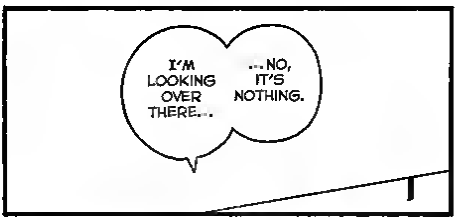

An hour later, here we are.


LET'S DO THAT.
WELL THEN... LET'S GO LOOK AGAIN TODAY IN THE PLACES WHERE PINK NOSE COULD OFTEN BE FOUND.

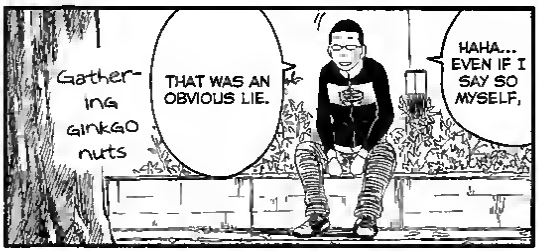
EH?
...THAT GIRL, OF COURSE...

...HM?
...I WONDER.

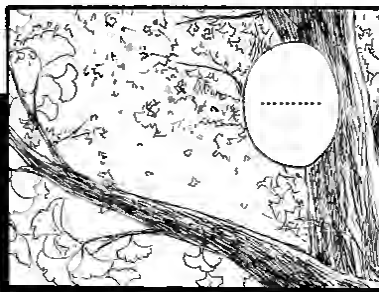

FRANK


I'M LOOKING OVER THERE...
...NO, IT'S NOTHING.

WHAT THE!? WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
AH, COLLECTING NUTS...

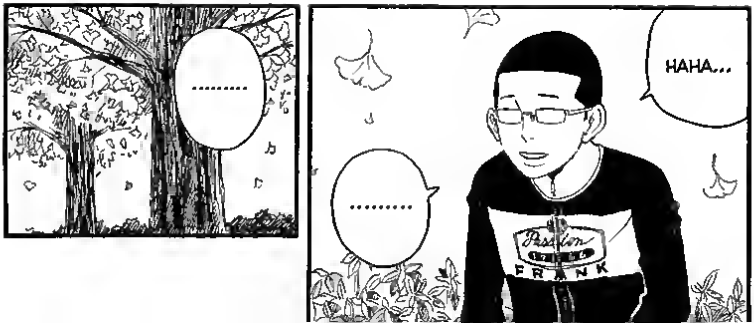

Gathering ginkgo nuts
THAT WAS AN OBVIOUS LIE.
HAHA... EVEN IF I SAY SO MYSELF,

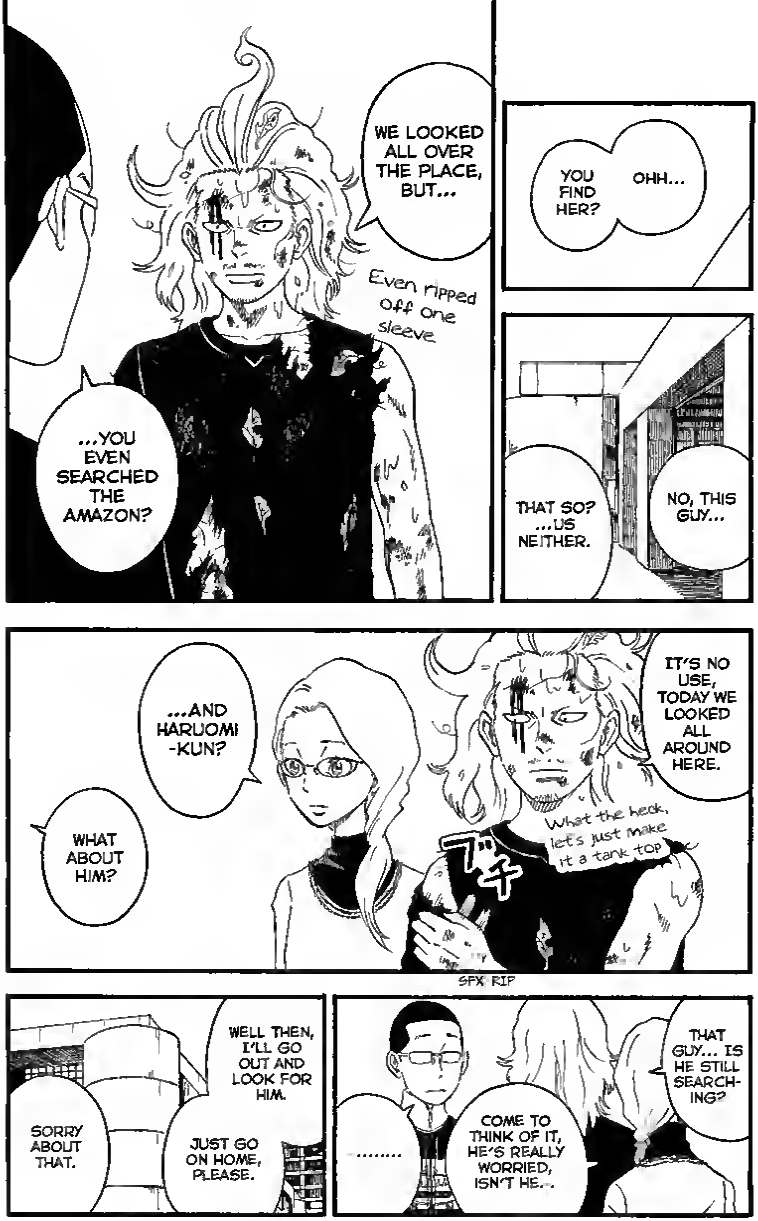
...SHE CLIMBED THE TREE TO ESCAPE THE PRESIDENT BUT NOW SHE CAN'T GET DOWN
IT'S PINK NOSE... WHAT'S SHE DOING?


.....

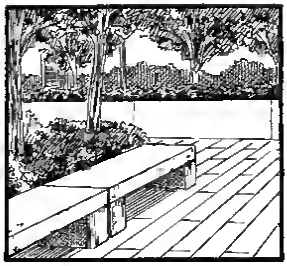
MEOWWWW....

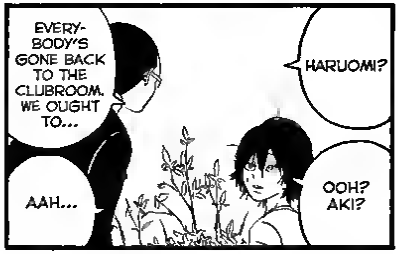
SLIP
AH!?
WHAM
UFF!?
COME ON...
HERE YOU GO
NICE CUSHION!!
IT HURTS.
HAHAHA... YOU TWO HAVE BEEN INTEGRATED!!

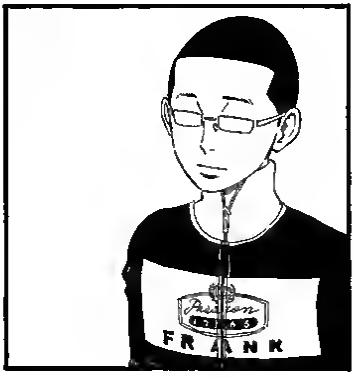

.....
.....
HAHA...
FRANK


WE LOOKED ALL OVER THE PLACE, BUT...
Even ripped off one sleeve
...YOU EVEN SEARCHED THE AMAZON?
YOU FIND HER?
OHH...
THAT SO? ...US NEITHER.
NO, THIS GUY...
...AND HARUOMI -KUN?
WHAT ABOUT HIM?
IT'S NO USE, TODAY WE LOOKED ALL AROUND HERE.
What the heck, let's just make it a tank top
ブチ
SFX RIP
WELL THEN, I'LL GO OUT AND LOOK FOR HIM.
JUST GO ON HOME, PLEASE.
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
.....
COME TO THINK OF IT, HE'S REALLY WORRIED, ISN'T HE...
THAT GUY... IS HE STILL SEARCHING?

OH, THERE YOU ARE
HARUO...

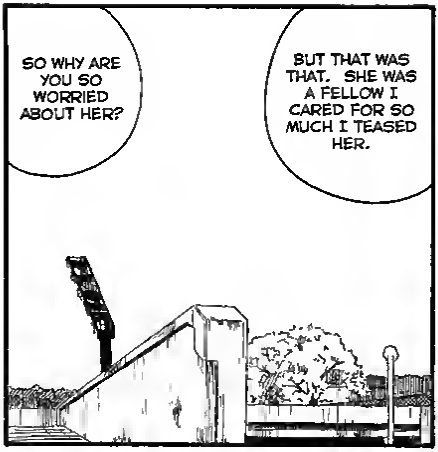


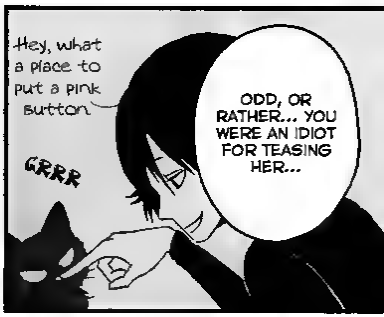

EVERY-BODY'S GONE BACK TO THE CLUBROOM. WE OUGHT TO...
AAH...
HARUOMI?
OOH? AKI?


FRANK

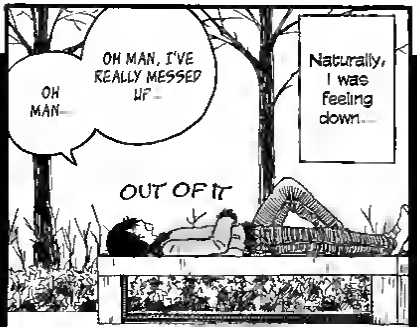
..YOU KNOW...
HM?

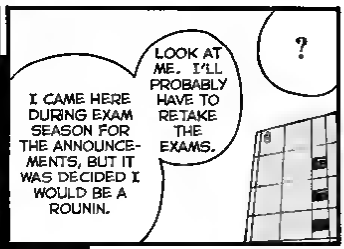
WHY ARE YOU GOING SO FAR FOR PINK NOSE...?
...ISN'T IT ODD?


SO WHY ARE YOU SO WORRIED ABOUT HER?
BUT THAT WAS THAT. SHE WAS A FELLOW I CARED FOR SO MUCH I TEASED HER.


Hey, what a place to put a pink button
GRRR
ODD, OR RATHER... YOU WERE AN IDIOT FOR TEASING HER...

PINK NOSE HAS HELPED ME TOO.
YEAH... WELL, FOR WHATEVER REASON,

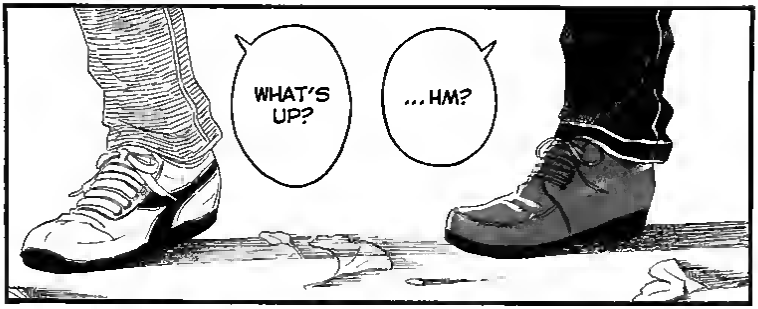

OH MAN—
OH MAN, I'VE REALLY MESSED UP—
Naturally, I was feeling down—
OUT OF IT

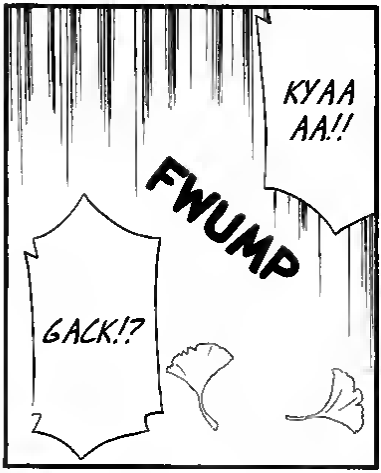

?
LOOK AT ME. I'LL PROBABLY HAVE TO RETAKE THE EXAMS.
I CAME HERE DURING EXAM SEASON FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENTS, BUT IT WAS DECIDED I WOULD BE A ROUNIN.

I UNDER-ESTIMATED THE TEST.
IT LOOKS LIKE MY SCORE HERE WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH EITHER...
Frankly, up to that point,
.....
NESTLE
AND I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COME HERE NEXT YEAR...
AH, MY HEART IS HEAVY.
EVEN MY STOMACH IS HEAVY... EH?
I wasn't particularly a cat lover.
..But,
SHOVE
LOOK, JUST GO. ANY-WHERE.
I DON'T HAVE ANY-THING TO FEED YOU.

AS YOU WISH.
.....
RUB, RUB
.....
MEOW... MEOW...
SEE YA... ....
_____ but she never did leave my side
I don't know how many hours I was spaced out,
BEEN HERE LONG ENOUGH, GOTTA GO.
YOU SHOULD GO HOME TOO.

MEOW... MEOW...
...NEXT TIME.
...WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU DON'T LIKE GOOD-BYES?
MEOW... MEOW...
I probably would not have become a student here,
...If I had not met her,
AND NEVER HAVE COME TO LIKE CATS...
RUSTLE
.....
.....
AND I WOULD NOT HAVE MET YOU EITHER.
Ha ha

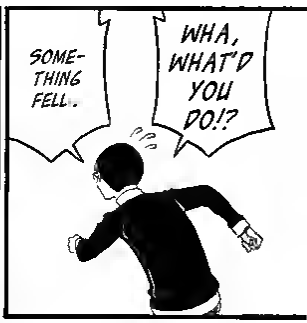

WHAT'S UP?
...HM?


KYAA AA!!
FWUMP
GACK!?

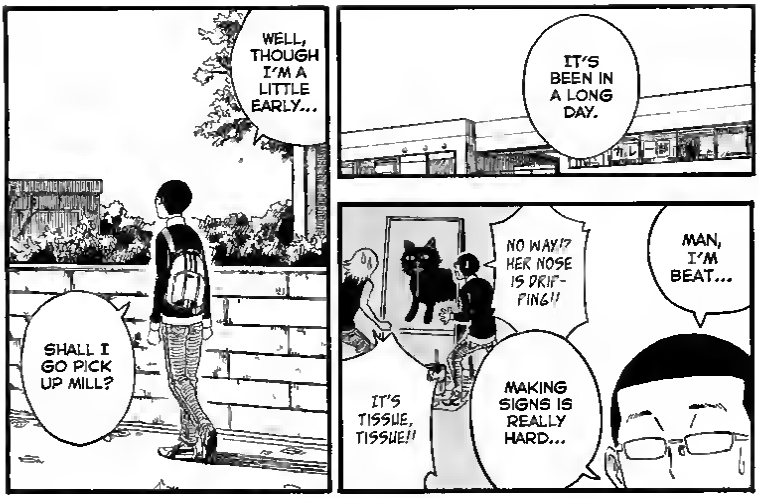
WELLL... SOMETHING RUSTLED...
?

WAS IT THIS TREE?
SHAKE SHAKE
HM?

SILENCE...
AH.


SOME-THING FELL.
WHA, WHAT'D YOU DO!?

...HUH? WEREN'T YOU IN THE CO-OP JUST NOW...
!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
AH... SORRY...
SEE YA!!
ZOOM
EH, HEY...
EH... WELL, ERR...
FOR THE GINKGO NUTS. TO GET GINKGO NUTS...!!
OR RATHER... WHAT WERE YOU DOING UP IN A TREE?
HM... WHAT? IT'S LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED TO ME BEFORE...
OH, DEJA VU?
WHAT, WHAT...
THERE WAS THIS AWFUL LIE I HEARD SOME-WHERE...
OOH, HARUOMI... YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?
.....?


WELL, THOUGH I'M A LITTLE EARLY...
SHALL I GO PICK UP MILL?
IT'S BEEN IN A LONG DAY.
MAN, I'M BEAT...
NO WAY!? HER NOSE IS DRIFTING!!
IT'S TISSUE, TISSUE!!
MAKING SIGNS IS REALLY HARD...

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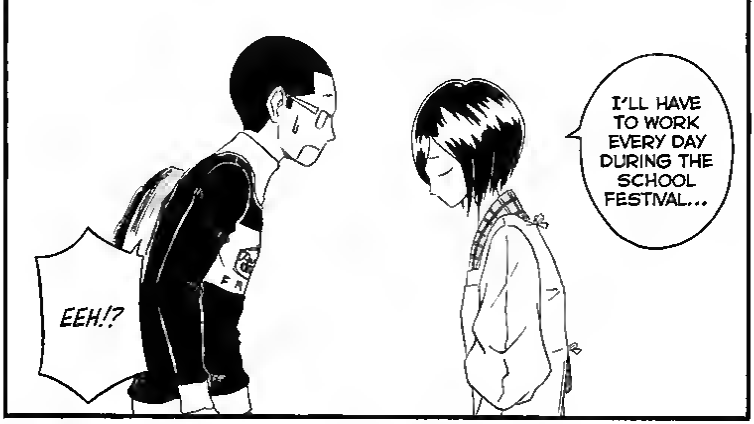
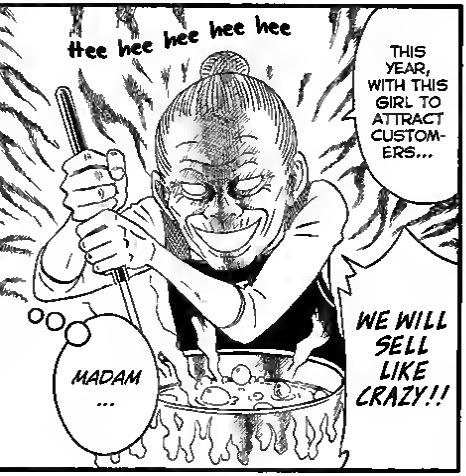
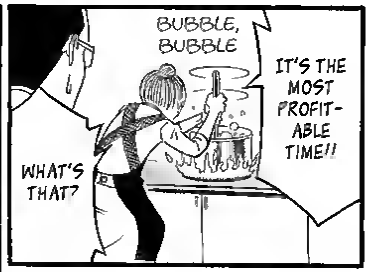
SFX DEPRESSED
どんより
WHAT IS IT... WHAT HAPPENED?
ABOUT THAT...
OH... AKI-CHAN ...
HUH?
GOOD EVENING.


I'LL HAVE TO WORK EVERY DAY DURING THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...
EEH!?


Hee hee hee hee hee
THIS YEAR, WITH THIS GIRL TO ATTRACT CUSTOM-ERS...
WE WILL SELL LIKE CRAZY!!
MADAM ...


BUBBLE, BUBBLE
IT'S THE MOST PROFIT-ABLE TIME!!
WHAT'S THAT?

?
IT'S BECAUSE OUR SHOP DOES A FOOD STALL IN YOUR FESTIVAL.
IT'S A ONCE-A-YEAR BUSINESS OPPORTU-NITY!!

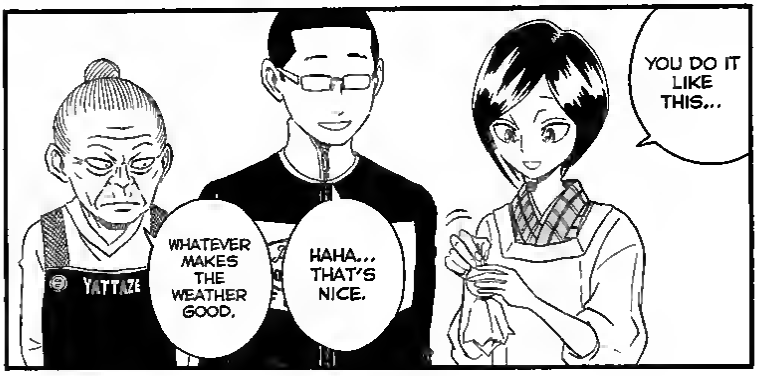
I'M SORRY...
WHAT, ARE YOU DOWN BECAUSE OF THAT?
DON'T BE A PROBLEM! A GIRL WITH A FACE LIKE THAT WON'T SELL ANYTHING!

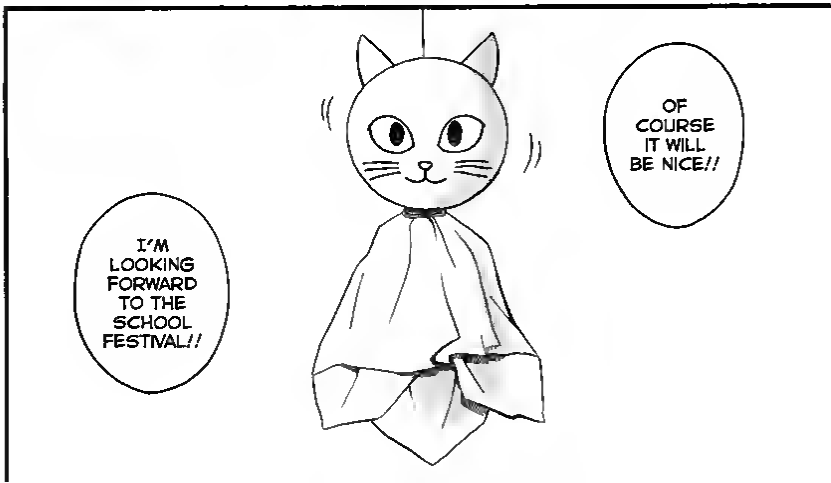
...SO I AM HERE...
WELL... TO WANDER AROUND THE FESTIVAL TOGETHER...
WHAT, YOU GUYS HAD PLANS?

JUST SELL AS YOU SHOULD.
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!!
THANK YOU!!

REALLY!?
THERE'S NO HELPING IT. ...IF WE WORK HARD AND SELL,
WE MAY BE ABLE TO CLOSE EARLY ON THE LAST DAY.

A GOOD WEATHER CAT!?
THEN I'LL MAKE A GOOD WEATHER CAT!!
AND THEN THERE'S THE WEATHER. IF THE WEATHER ISN'T GOOD, THE CUSTOMERS...


YOU DO IT LIKE THIS...
HAHA... THAT'S NICE.
WHATEVER MAKES THE WEATHER GOOD.
YATTAZE

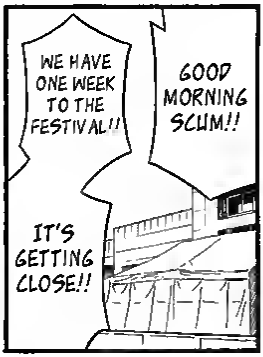

OF COURSE IT WILL BE NICE!!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!!

THAT THING YOU MADE... A WEATHER CAT, WAS IT?
I TRIED MAKING ONE TOO.
YOU DID?
I'M WORRIED THE WEATHER WON'T CLEAR UP.
151

THE EARS ARE TURNING OUT LIKE HORNS
THINGS LIKE THIS RESEMBLE THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THEM
LOOK.

SCANLATION BY RPAPO

WE WILL SEARCH FOR PINK NOSE TIL WE DROP!!
WE HAVE LEAFLETS, POSTERS AND PREPARATIONS TO COMPLETE!!
オオー!!

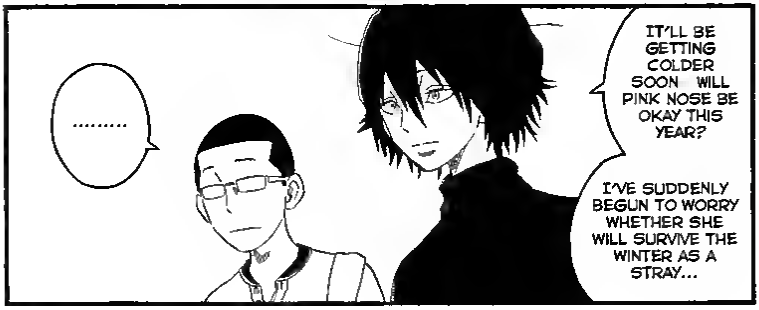

GOOD MORNING SCUM!!
WE HAVE ONE WEEK TO THE FESTIVAL!!
IT'S GETTING CLOSE!!

SFX. OOOHH!!

YAH, AKI... ISN'T IT FALL?
THAT AGAIN? ENOUGH OF THAT "AKI, AKI."
COOL IT!!
...THAT'S NOT IT.

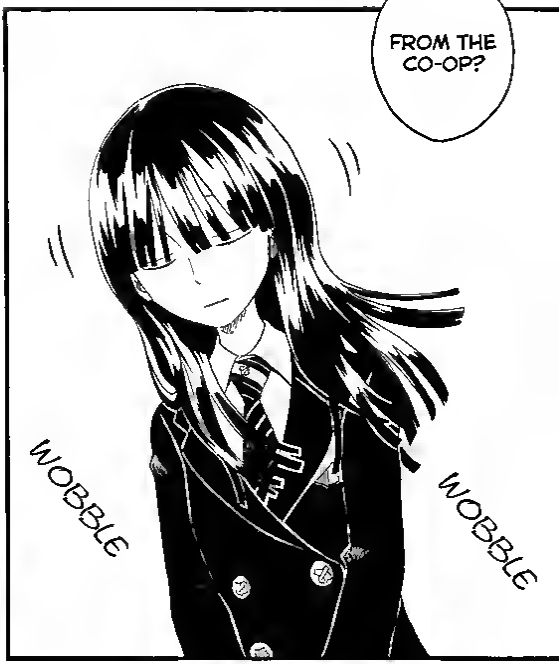
YES SIR...
THUD, THUD
WELL THEN, WE HAVE THINGS TO DO!! CLASSES ARE OVER, SO LET'S GO!!

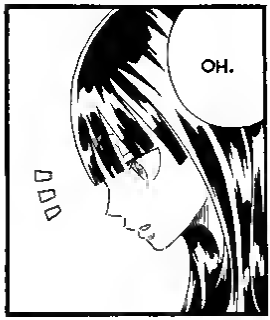
YAWN.....
WHAT'S UP, HARUOMI... WHAT HAPPENED?


.....
IT'LL BE GETTING COLDER SOON WILL PINK NOSE BE OKAY THIS YEAR?
I'VE SUDDENLY BEGUN TO WORRY WHETHER SHE WILL SURVIVE THE WINTER AS A STRAY...

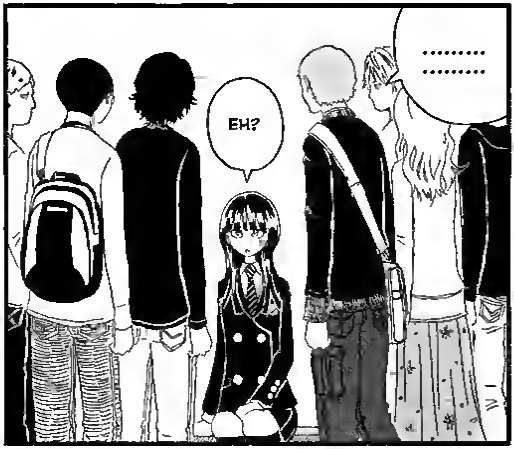
I HAVE NO IDEA. ANYWAY, LET'S GO SEE!!
WHAAT!? HOW IS IT A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL...!?
IT LOOKS LIKE A SUPER CUTE HIGH SCHOOL GIRL IS DOZING ON A BENCH OVER BY THE CO-OP!!
...RUMBLE RUMBLE...
.....
...YES, I KNOW...
WELL, WHATEVER... YOU MAY BE WORRYING TOO MUCH.
HEY, HURRY!!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
HURRY UP, LET'S GO!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, AKI!?
.....
.....
ZOOM
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT...
HM?
SFX: CHATTERING
WHAT? THAT GIRL...
THERE SHE IS...
ガヤガヤ

IT'S THE GIRL FROM THE BOOK-STORE... WAS SHE A HIGH-SCHOOL-ER?
WELL, SHE WAS WEARING AN APRON OVER A UNIFORM.


FROM THE CO-OP?
WOBBLE
WOBBLE

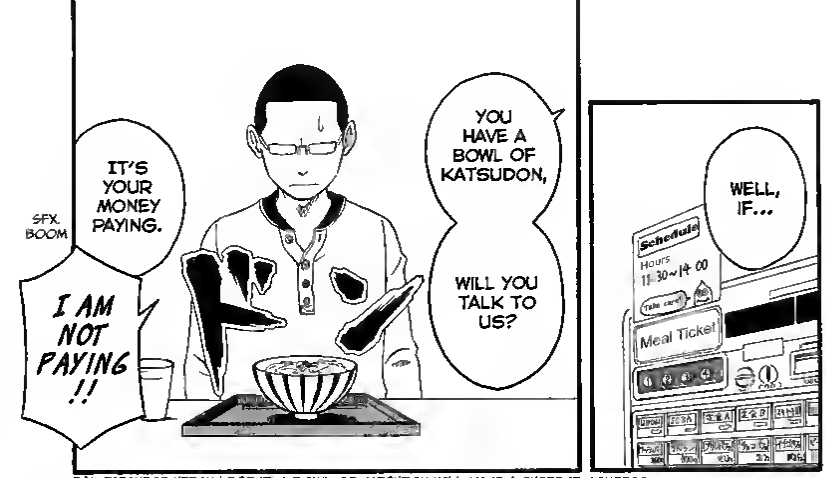

OH.

AH...
HM?

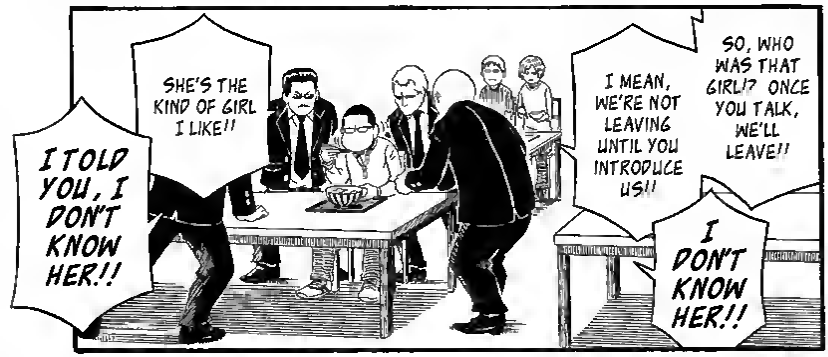

EH?
.....
.....

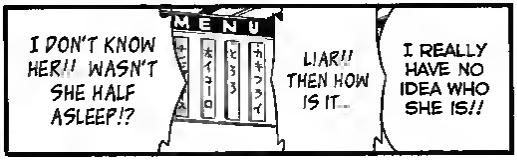
STROKE
HEY...?
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
EH... WHAT?
SNIFF, SNIFF
!!
EEH!?
HUH!?
WHAT'S THIS, AKI!?
RUB, RUB
HEY... HEY!!

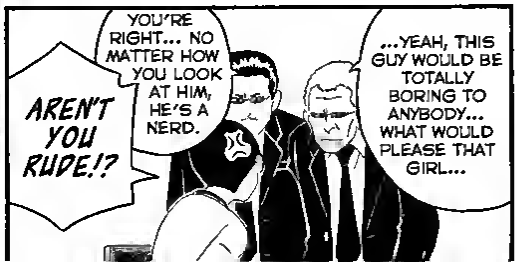
AH... EX, EXCUSE ME!! ERR...
WELL ...
SHAKE, SHAKE
A... KI!!
HEY...WHAT WAS THAT!? JUST NOW!! AKI.
I'M SOR- RYYYY!!
UMM...
SCRAMBLE
EEEEH-HH!?
AHEM,
YOU'RE ASKING ME?
...HUH? JUST NOW, WHAT HAP-PENED...
NOOOO... HELP ME...!!
EH? HEY... YES!?
YOU WOULD LIKE TO TELL US?
DO YOU HAVE ANY-THING
* Students in job-hunting mode



T/N JAPANESE URBAN LEGEND: A BOWL OF KATSUDON WILL MAKE A SUSPECT CONFESS

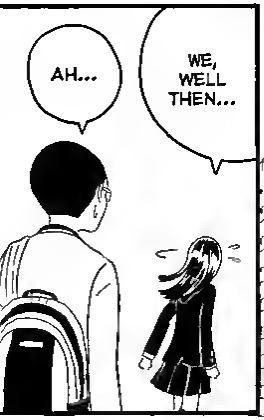

I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW HER!!
SHE'S THE KIND OF GIRL I LIKE!!
I MEAN, WE'RE NOT LEAVING UNTIL YOU INTRODUCE US!!
SO, WHO WAS THAT GIRL!? ONCE YOU TALK, WE'LL LEAVE!!
I DON'T KNOW HER!!




AREN'T YOU RUDE!?
YOU'RE RIGHT... NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT HIM, HE'S A NERD.
...YEAH, THIS GUY WOULD BE TOTALLY BORING TO ANYBODY... WHAT WOULD PLEASE THAT GIRL...

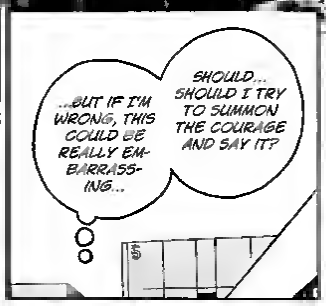
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WHAT?
GETTING SO CLOSE, NOSE TO NOSE, THEN RUBBING HER HEAD...
EH!?
THAT'S OVER...
THEY FINALLY LET ME GO.
BUT WHATEVER IT WAS, THAT SNUGGLING UP...
WELL I NEVER, MAYBE I'M FINALLY HAVING MY MOMENT
So sad, joking by yourself
I KNOW, DON'T COME!!
HER REACTION WHEN I SHOWED HER THAT POSTER!!
AND THEN, THE BLACK CLOTHES FROM HEAD TO TOE!!
IS, ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE A CAT!?
AND THERE'S MORE!!
IS IT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
NO, NO, NO WAY...
AH, ERR...

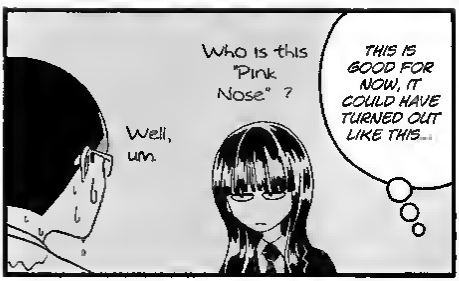
I'M GLAD... I'M REALLY SORRY...
AH... YES...

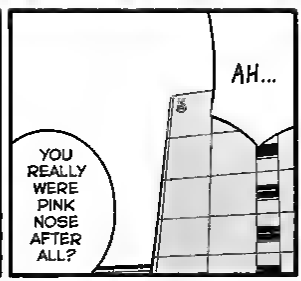

AH...
WE, WELL THEN...

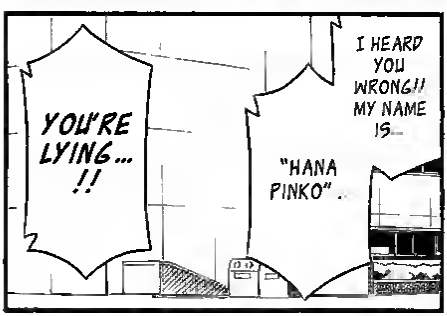
ARE YOU OKAY AFTER WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
!!

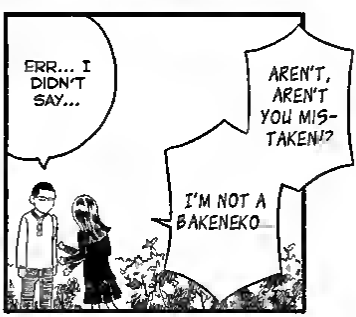
HEY, IT'S NOW OR NOTHING!!
PI,


...BUT IF I'M WRONG, THIS COULD BE REALLY EMBARRASSING...
SHOULD... SHOULD I TRY TO SUMMON THE COURAGE AND SAY IT?









T/N THE JAPANESE WORD 'HANA' MEANS BOTH 'NOSE' AND 'FLOWER' THERE WILL BE MORE PLAY ON THIS LATER

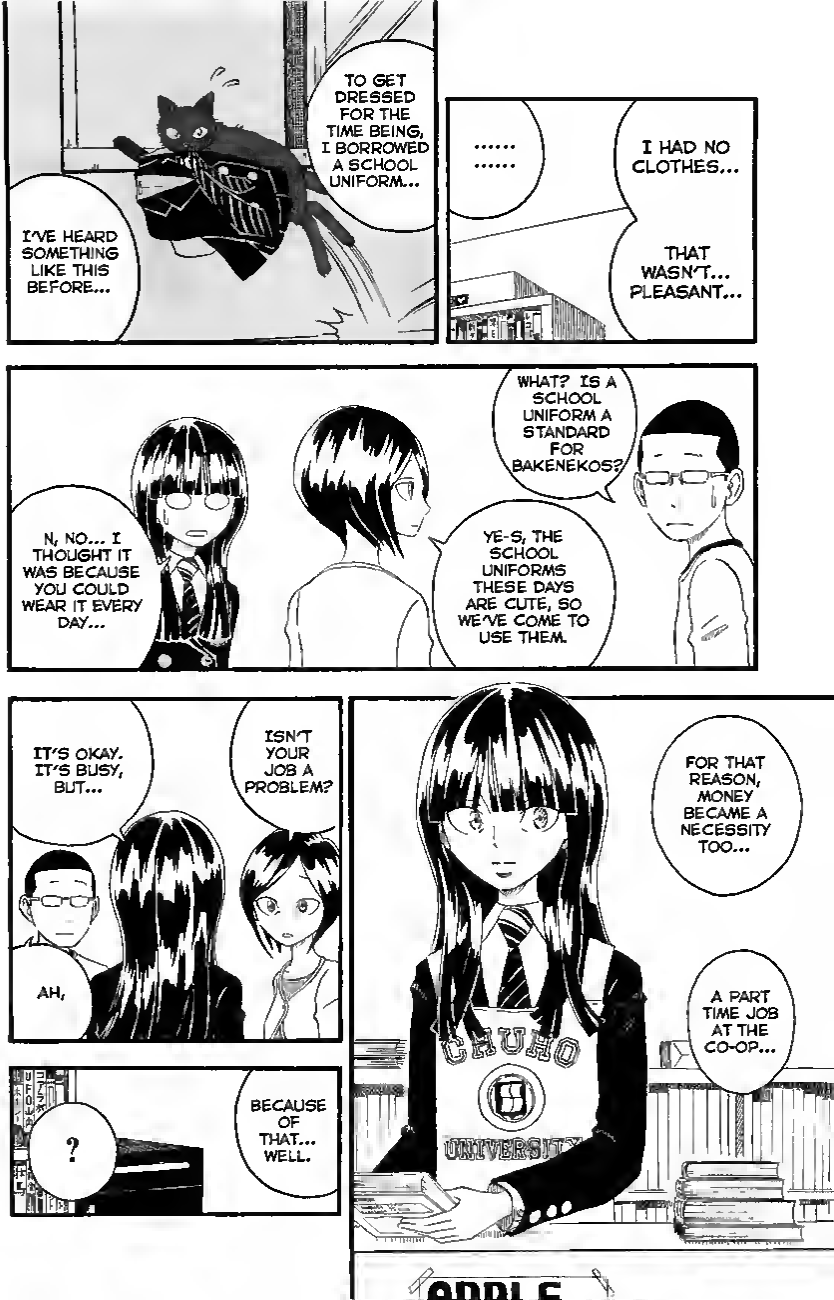
EH? AH, AT A BAKENEKO?
...ERR... AREN'T YOU SURPRISED?
WELL... ABOUT THAT,
IT'S OKAY... YOU DON'T NEED TO PANIC LIKE THAT.
.....
.....
?
EH? WH, WHO IS THAT PERSON ...?
No I'm speaking of a Bakene
Hello, Mill? Would it be okay with you if I brought over a guest right now?
WE HAD BETTER HAVE YOU MEET SOMEBODY RIGHT AWAY.
VERY MUCH YOUR SENPAI ...
YOUR SENPAI.
...NO,

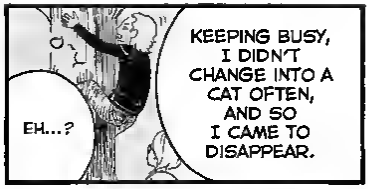
I AM BAKENEKO SOEJIMA MILL.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
SHUT
YES!!
WELL THEN, MILL...
!!
MEOW
OPEN
WELL, SHE REALLY IS.
WHAT... THE...?
I WAS TOLD THAT IN MY INTERVIEW...
...SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY PLAYING A GIRL'S ROLE IN AN OPERA COMPANY.
MOMONO HANA...*
Is this a stage name?
No, it's my real name.
MOMONO HANA
...SHE DID SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.
WHAT!? SHE'S GONE!! ONLY HER CLOTHES.
AH... IN THE CO-OP,
WELL?
YOU'RE A BAKENEKO JUST LIKE HER, PINK... ERR, WHAT IS YOUR REAL NAME?

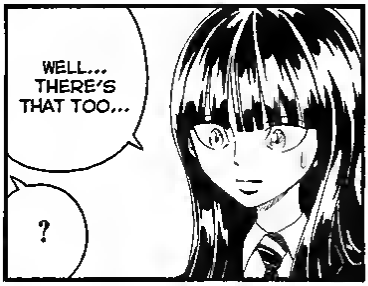
* "PEACH FLOWER" - UNUSUAL EVEN FOR JAPAN

OR SIMPLY, "PINK NOSE"

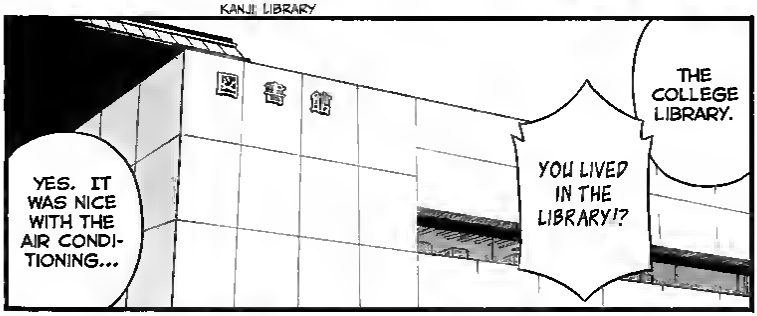
SO I'M 86 YEARS OLD!! WHAT OF IT!?
HMPH...
EH!?
EVEN MILL
SHE DOESN'T CHANGE, YET SHE HAS LIFE EXPERIENCE.
Ah, yes.
WELL THEN, SO YOU'RE HANA-CHAN.
OPEN
...AND YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR TRUE AGE IS 15, RIGHT?
LET ME SEE, IT'S BEEN EIGHT MONTHS NOW...
...HOW LONG AGO DID YOU BECOME HUMAN?
OH COME ON, NOT ANOTHER PERSON SAYING THAT...
.....
.....
YOU DON'T LOOK IT...
OH, WHAT?
AND THEN I REALIZED...
YES... I WAS CONFUSED AT FIRST...
WAS IT HARD FOR YOU, TURNING INTO A HUMAN?

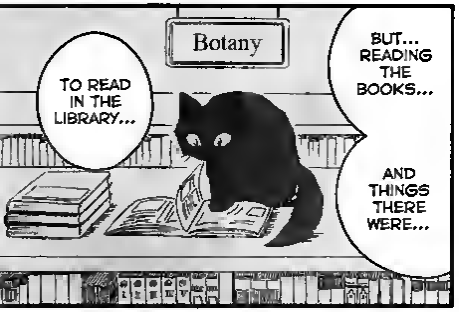

TO GET DRESSED FOR THE TIME BEING, I BORROWED A SCHOOL UNIFORM...
I'VE HEARD SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE...
I HAD NO CLOTHES...
.....
.....
THAT WASN'T... PLEASANT...
WHAT? IS A SCHOOL UNIFORM A STANDARD FOR BAKENEKOS?
YE-S, THE SCHOOL UNIFORMS THESE DAYS ARE CUTE, SO WE'VE COME TO USE THEM.
N, NO... I THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE YOU COULD WEAR IT EVERY DAY...
ISN'T YOUR JOB A PROBLEM?
IT'S OKAY. IT'S BUSY, BUT...
AH,
FOR THAT REASON, MONEY BECAME A NECESSITY TOO...
A PART TIME JOB AT THE CO-OP...
CHUHO
UNIVERSITY
BECAUSE OF THAT... WELL.
?

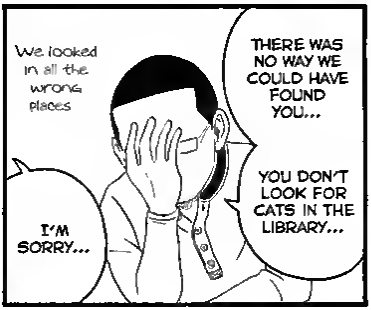


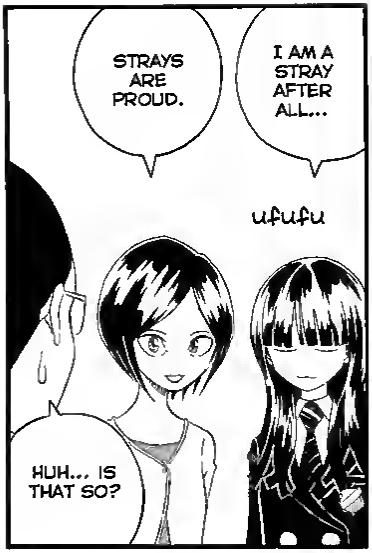


KANJI: LIBRARY





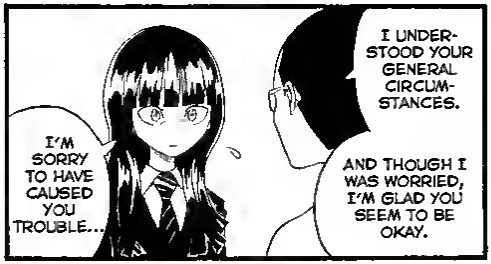


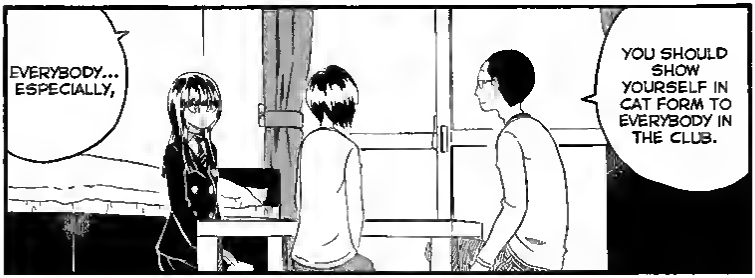

STRAYS ARE PROUD.
I AM A STRAY AFTER ALL...
ufufu
HUH... IS THAT SO?

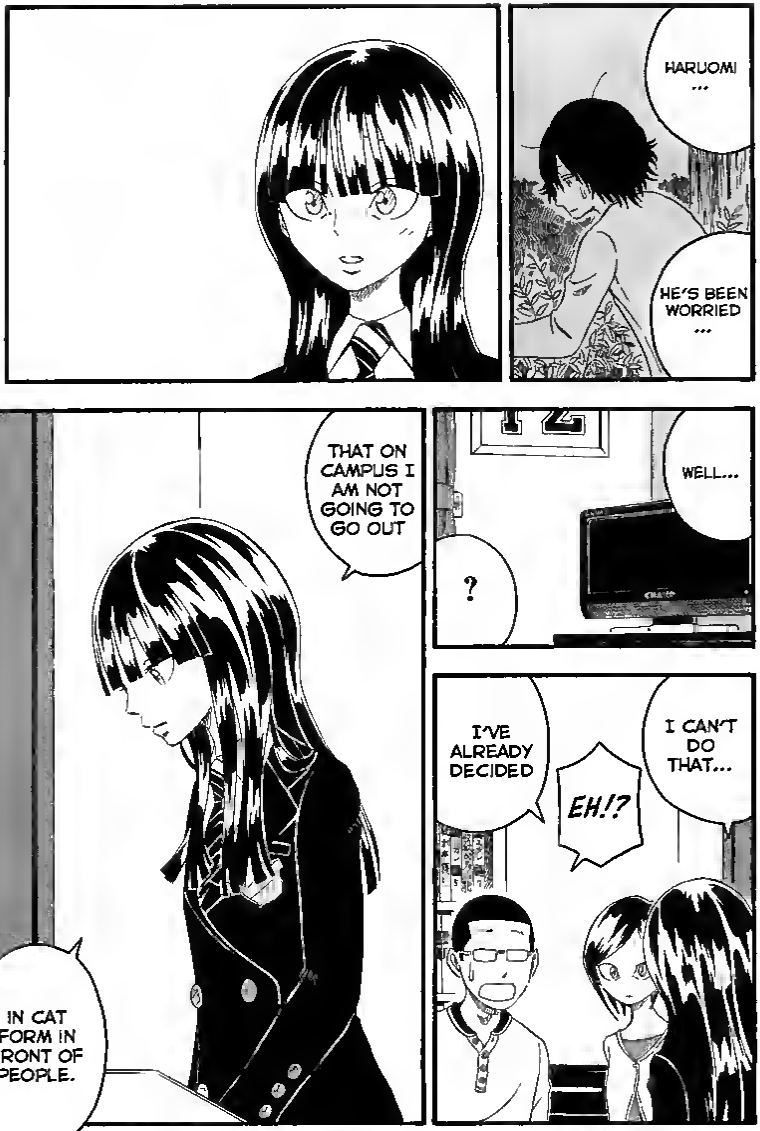
Ah, in the book it said I could eat this plant
WAS USEFUL FOR MY PRIVATE LIFE.
MY JOB, OF COURSE,
...THIS IS WILD, ISN'T IT...
ブチ

SFX SNAP

NO BIG DEAL, YOU'RE FINE
OH YEAH.

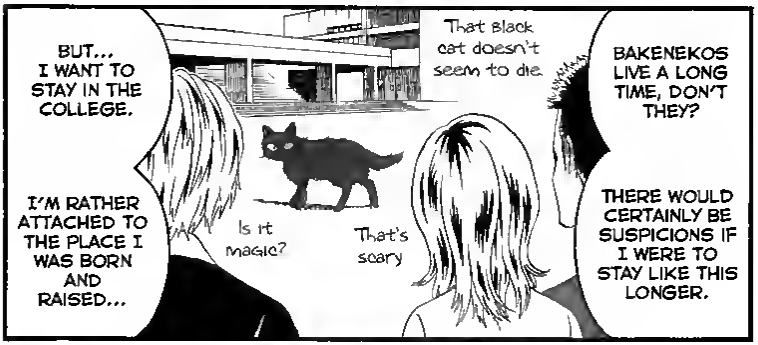

I'M SORRY TO HAVE CAUSED YOU TROUBLE...
I UNDERSTOOD YOUR GENERAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
AND THOUGH I WAS WORRIED, I'M GLAD YOU SEEM TO BE OKAY.

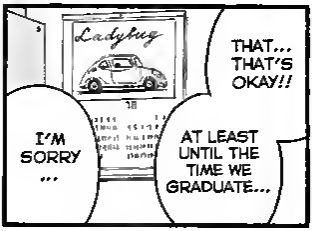

EVERYBODY... ESPECIALLY,
YOU SHOULD SHOW YOURSELF IN CAT FORM TO EVERYBODY IN THE CLUB.

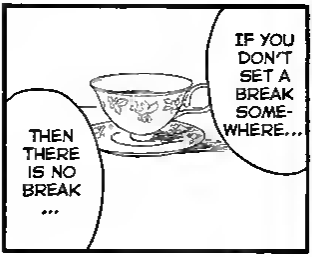

HARUOMI ...
HE'S BEEN WORRIED ...
WELL...
?
I'VE ALREADY DECIDED
EH!?
I CAN'T DO THAT...
THAT ON CAMPUS I AM NOT GOING TO GO OUT
IN CAT FORM IN FRONT OF PEOPLE.

AM I NOT ALREADY 15 YEARS OLD?
THAT SHOULD BE WRITTEN IN THE CLUB RECORDS.
THEY'VE BEEN GOOD ABOUT THAT...

BE-CAUSE ...
WOW... WHY...

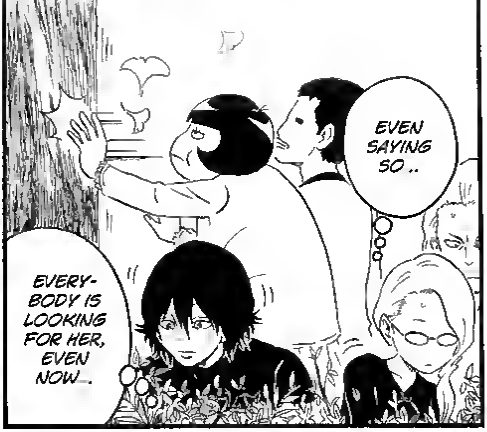

BUT... I WANT TO STAY IN THE COLLEGE.
I'M RATHER ATTACHED TO THE PLACE I WAS BORN AND RAISED...
Is it magic?
That's scary
That black cat doesn't seem to die.
BAKENEKOS LIVE A LONG TIME, DON'T THEY?
THERE WOULD CERTAINLY BE SUSPICIONS IF I WERE TO STAY LIKE THIS LONGER.


Ladybug
I'M SORRY ...
THAT... THAT'S OKAY!!
AT LEAST UNTIL THE TIME WE GRADUATE...

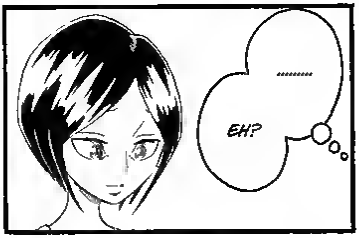

THEN THERE IS NO BREAK ...
IF YOU DON'T SET A BREAK SOME-WHERE...

AND SO... TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISAPPEAR AS A CAT,
I WILL BE A HUMAN FROM NOW ON...

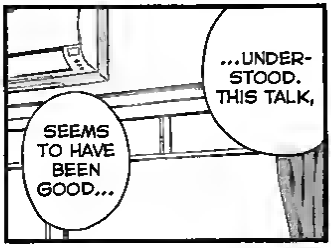
BEING FEARED IS SUCH A THING...
SHE WON'T ACCEPT IT, EVEN HEARING IT FROM MILL...


EVERY-BODY IS LOOKING FOR HER, EVEN NOW...
EVEN SAYING SO..

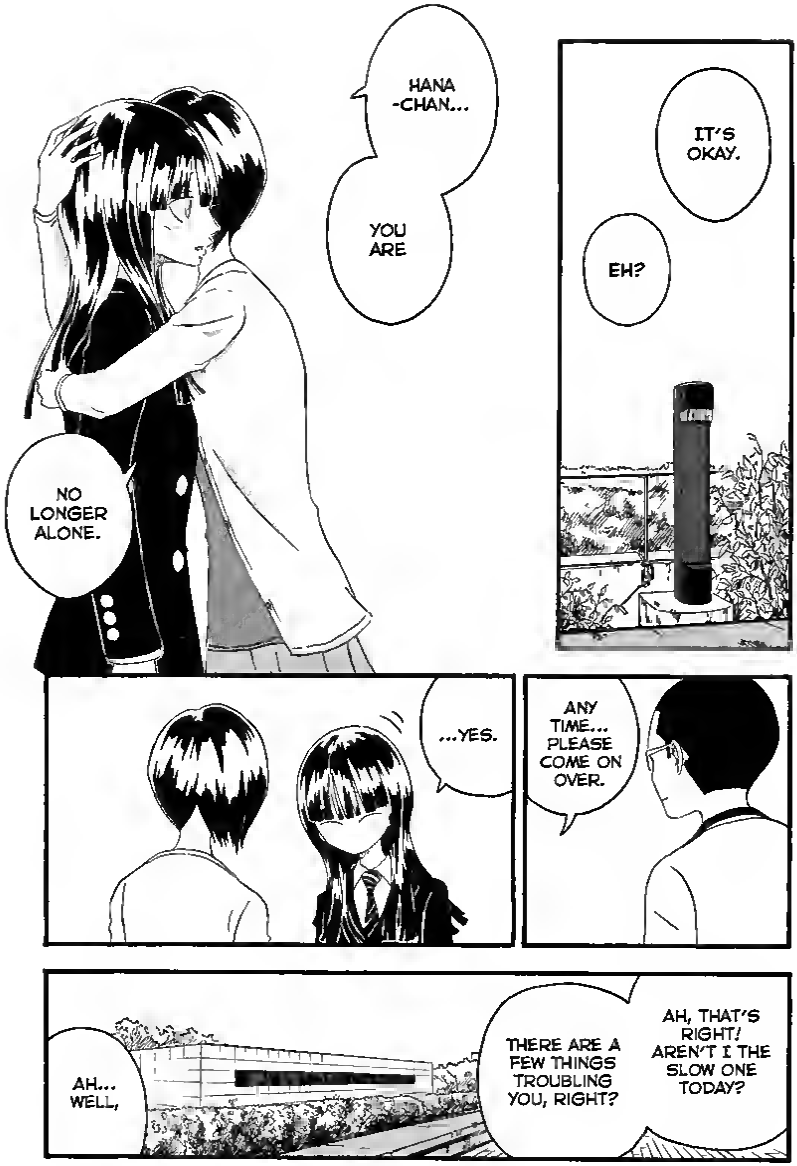
HASN'T THIS HAP-PENED...
TO MILL TOO..?


.....
EH?

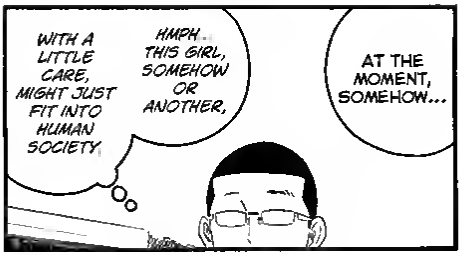
AH....
THAT'S IT.


...UNDER-STOOD. THIS TALK,
SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN GOOD...

AH,...
THANK YOU FOR SPENDING TIME WITH ME.
WELL THEN...
NOPE... .....
DON'T LET YOUR JOB STRESS YOU OUT.
See ya
YES... IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, JUST LET US KNOW.
HM?
UMM...!!
.....
WELL...
ANY-BODY ABOUT BAKE-NEKOS ...
UNTIL NOW... I'VE NEVER TALKED TO
TO... TODAY WAS REALLY FUN...

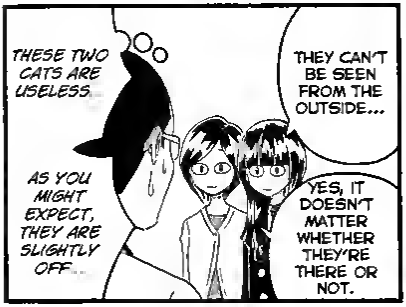

HANA -CHAN...
YOU ARE
NO LONGER ALONE.
IT'S OKAY.
EH?
...YES.
ANY TIME... PLEASE COME ON OVER.
AH... WELL,
THERE ARE A FEW THINGS TROUBLING YOU, RIGHT?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT! AREN'T I THE SLOW ONE TODAY?

HOWEVER, GATHERING THE RIGHT CLOTHES CAN BE A PROBLEM?
SHOES, SOCKS...


AT THE MOMENT, SOMEHOW...
HMPH... THIS GIRL, SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER,
WITH A LITTLE CARE, MIGHT JUST FIT INTO HUMAN SOCIETY

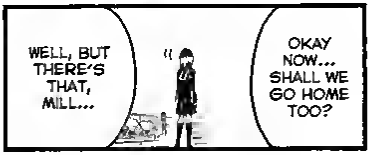
WHY, YOU ASK...
WHY!?

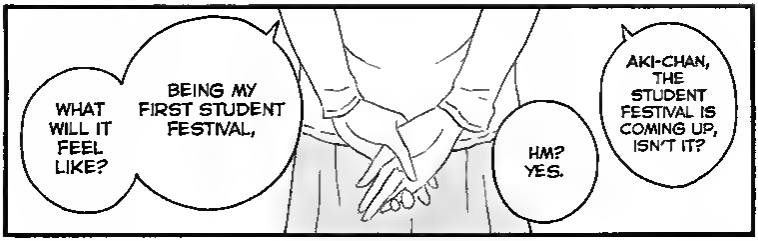
SHATTER
NO, I HAVEN'T BOUGHT UNDERWEAR.
UNDER-WEAR...

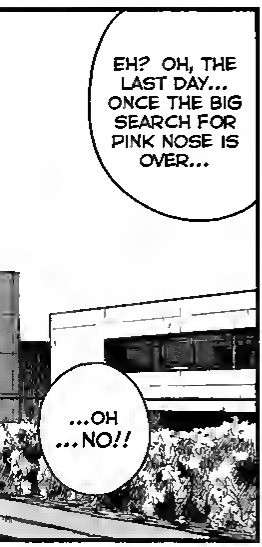

THESE TWO CATS ARE USELESS...
THEY CAN'T BE SEEN FROM THE OUTSIDE...
AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT, THEY ARE SLIGHTLY OFF...
YES, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER THEY'RE THERE OR NOT.

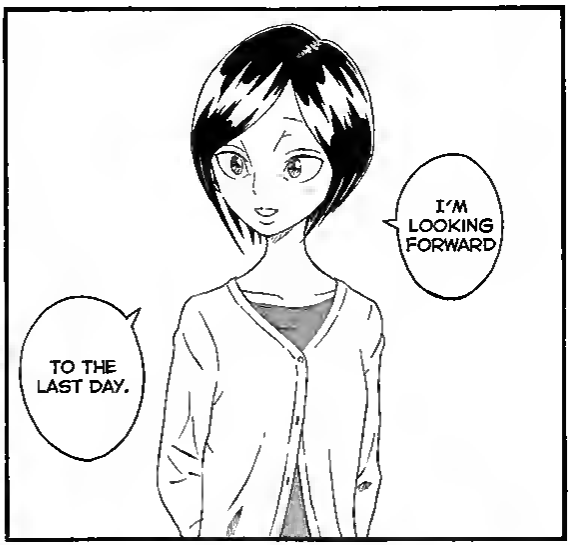
Hmm.
I'M GLAD YOU HAVE A FELLOW BAKENEKO NOW.
YES...
THAT'S RIGHT ...

EEhhh
WHISPER, WHISPER
NO 'EHS'!! PANTIES ARE BASIC TO HUMAN SOCIETY...
GO BUY PANTIES!!


WELL, BUT THERE'S THAT, MILL...
OKAY NOW... SHALL WE GO HOME TOO?


AKI-CHAN, THE STUDENT FESTIVAL IS COMING UP, ISN'T IT?
HM? YES.
BEING MY FIRST STUDENT FESTIVAL,
WHAT WILL IT FEEL LIKE?

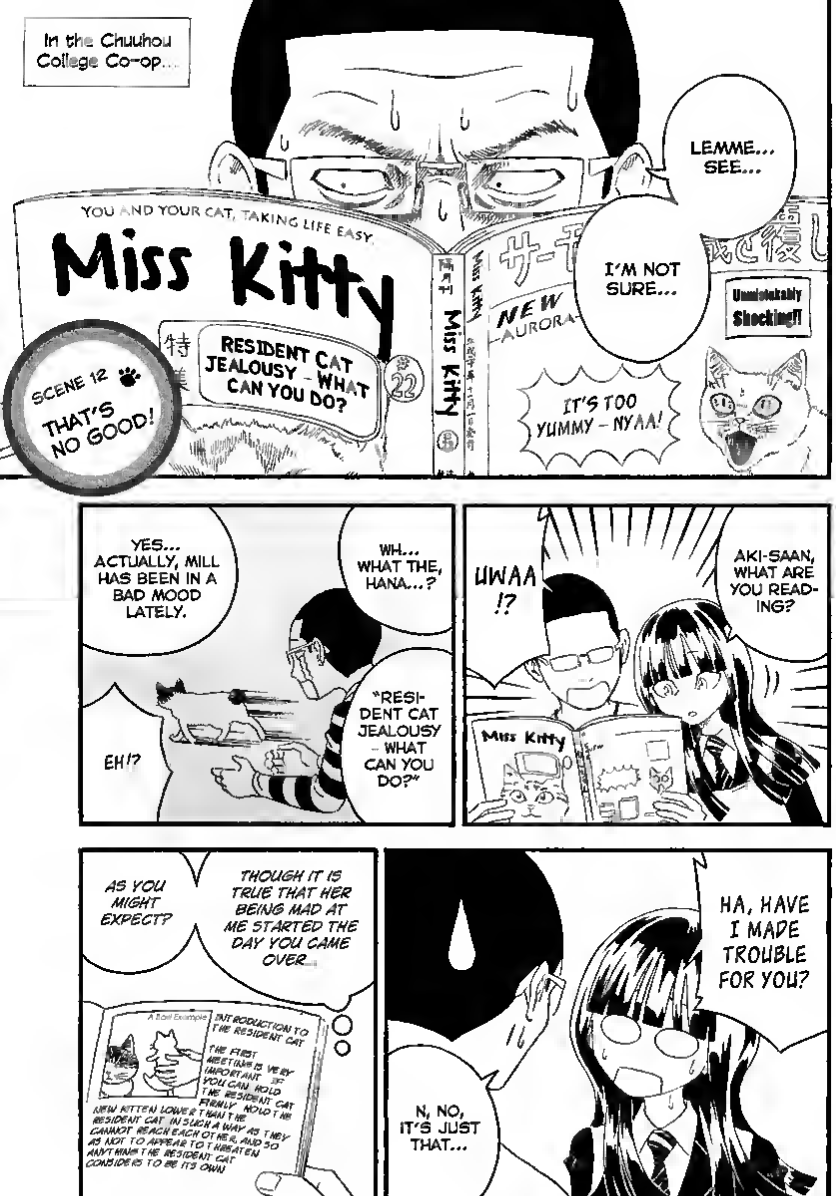

EH? OH, THE LAST DAY... ONCE THE BIG SEARCH FOR PINK NOSE IS OVER...
...OH ...NO!!


I'M LOOKING FORWARD
TO THE LAST DAY.

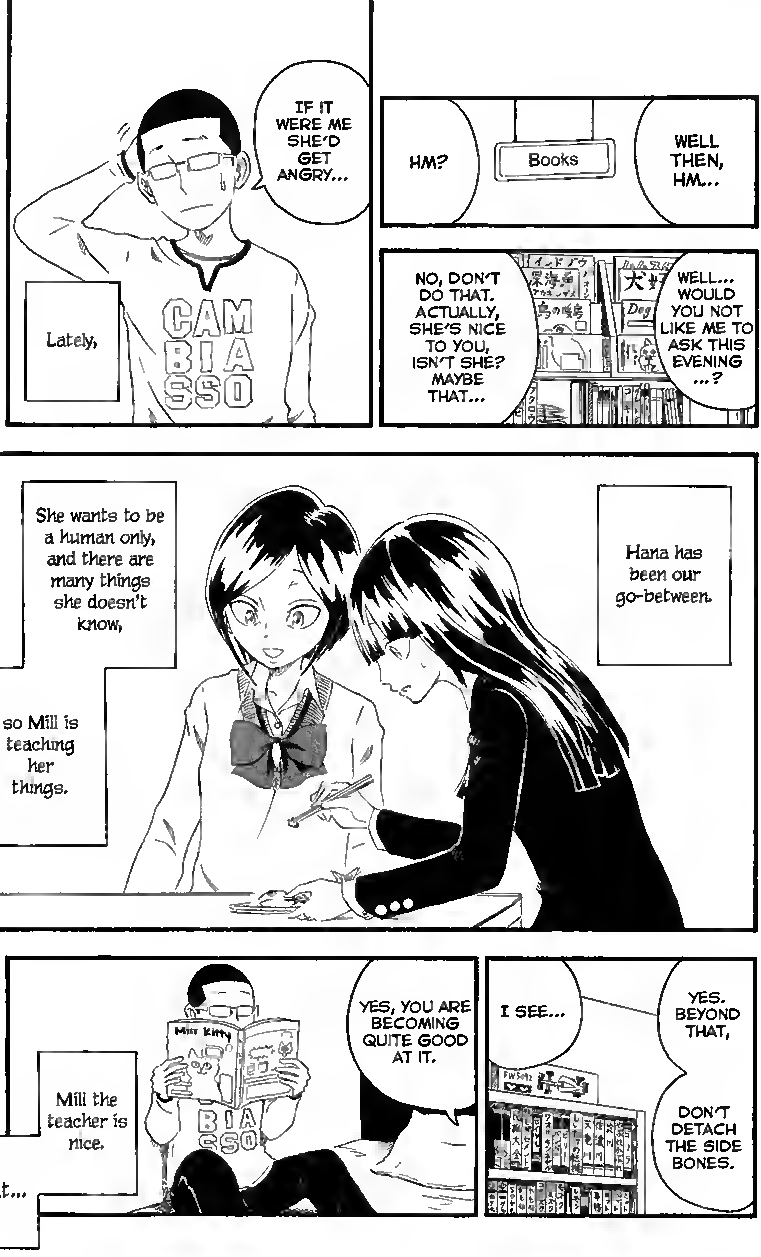
NO WAY!! EVERYBODY HAS BEEN TRYING SO HARD IN VAIN...
AND I CAN'T TELL THEM WHAT'S GOING ON... WHAT WILL I DO~~!?
HUH?

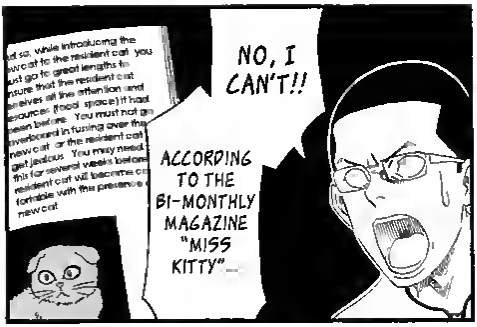
BONK
SO THE CLUB'S CAT SEARCH EVENT ITSELF IS MEANING-LESS!!
I ONLY JUST NOW REALIZED...
NO GOOD!! PINK NOSE HERSELF HAS SAID SHE ISN'T COMING,

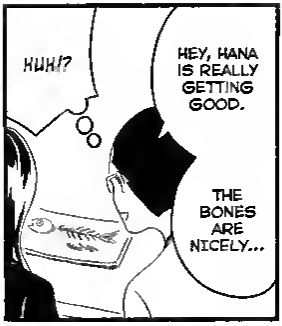
YOU'RE TOO...
HEY WAIT UP, MILL,
STEP STEP STEP
WHAT'S... GOING ON?
THE GLARE OF DEATH
FAST...?
WHAT...
IS GOING ON!?
HEEEYYYY!?
WHAT... HEY...
WH... WHY ARE YOU MAD?
HMPH HMPH HMPH


In the Chuuhou College Co-op...
YOU AND YOUR CAT, TAKING LIFE EASY
Miss Kitty
SCENE 12
THAT'S NO GOOD!
RESIDENT CAT JEALOUSY - WHAT CAN YOU DO?
22
Miss Kitty
NEW
LEMME... SEE...
I'M NOT SURE...
Unmistakably Shocking!!
IT'S TOO YUMMY - NYAA!
YES... ACTUALLY, MILL HAS BEEN IN A BAD MOOD LATELY.
WH... WHAT THE, HANA...?
EH!?
"RESIDENT CAT JEALOUSY - WHAT CAN YOU DO?"
UWAA !?
AKI-SAAN, WHAT ARE YOU READING?
Miss Kitty
AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT?
THOUGH IT IS TRUE THAT HER BEING MAD AT ME STARTED THE DAY YOU CAME OVER...
A Brief Example
INTRODUCTION TO THE RESIDENT CAT
THE FIRST MEETUP IS VERY IMPORTANT IF YOU CAN HOLD THE RESIDENT CAT FRIENDLY HOLD THE RESIDENT CAT IN SUCH A WAY AS THEY CANNOT REACH EACH OTHER, AND SO AS NOT TO APPEAR TO THE KITTEN AS IF YOU ARE THE RESIDENT CAT'S OWN
HA, HAVE I MADE TROUBLE FOR YOU?
N, NO, IT'S JUST THAT...

SCANLATION BY RPAPO


Lately,
IF IT WERE ME SHE'D GET ANGRY...
HM?
Books
WELL THEN, HM...
NO, DON'T DO THAT. ACTUALLY, SHE'S NICE TO YOU, ISN'T SHE? MAYBE THAT...
WELL... WOULD YOU NOT LIKE ME TO ASK THIS EVENING ...?
Hana has been our go-between.
She wants to be a human only, and there are many things she doesn't know,
so Mili is teaching her things.
Mili the teacher is nice.
But...
YES, YOU ARE BECOMING QUITE GOOD AT IT.
I SEE...
YES. BEYOND THAT,
DON'T DETACH THE SIDE BONES.

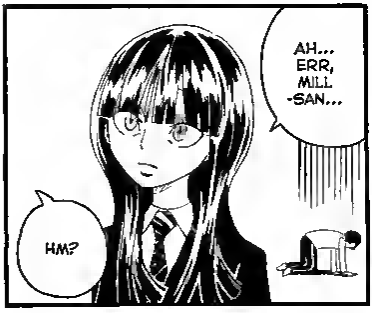

NO, I CAN'T!!
ACCORDING TO THE BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE "MISS KITTY"...

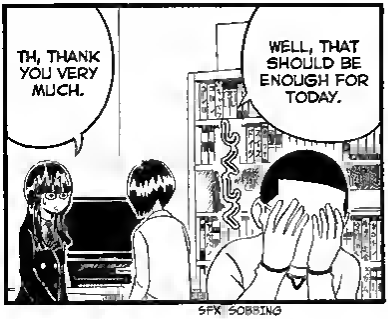

HUH!?
HEY, HANA IS REALLY GETTING GOOD.
THE BONES ARE NICELY...

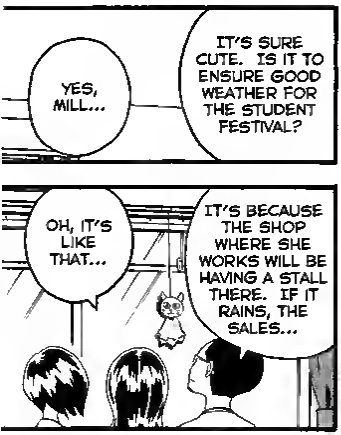
BOOM
DON'T BOTHER US.
Towards me, she's like a demon.

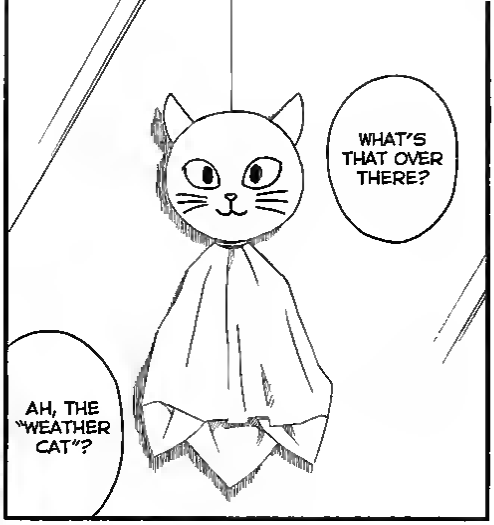
BECAUSE MILL IS A GOOD TEACHER
WELL, SORT OF. IT'S ALSO...
IF I PRAISE MILL AT THIS POINT...

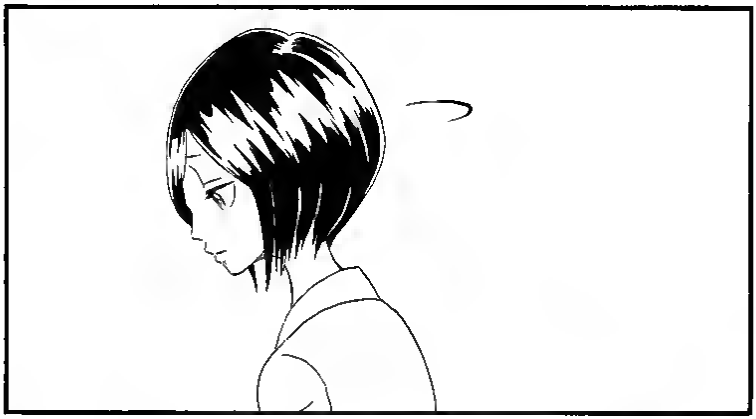
WHA, WHAT...
AKI-CHAN.

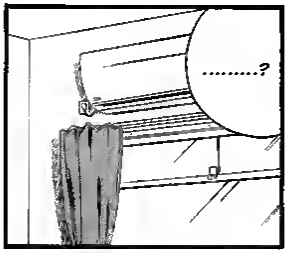

AH... ERR, MILL -SAN...
HM?

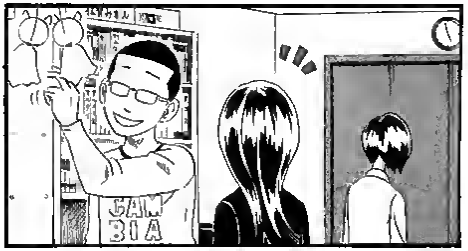

TH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WELL, THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
SFX: SOBBING


IT'S SURE CUTE. IS IT TO ENSURE GOOD WEATHER FOR THE STUDENT FESTIVAL?
YES, MILL...
IT'S BECAUSE THE SHOP WHERE SHE WORKS WILL BE HAVING A STALL THERE. IF IT RAINS, THE SALES...
OH, IT'S LIKE THAT...


WHAT'S THAT OVER THERE?
AH, THE "WEATHER CAT"?




.....?

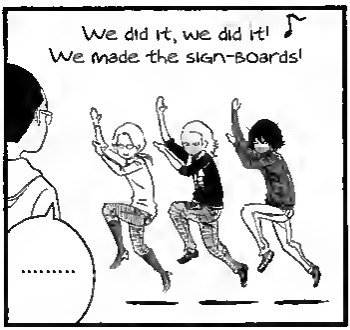

CAM
BIA

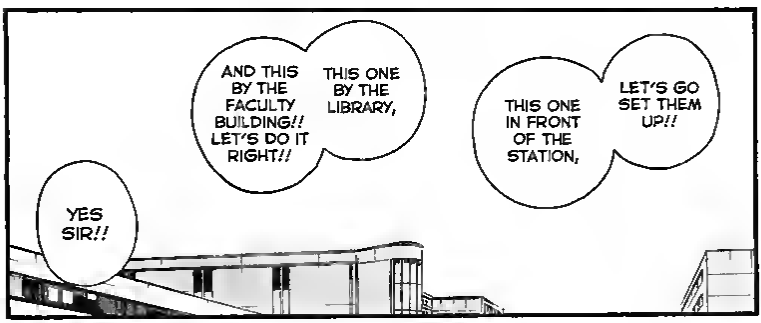
PINK
NOSE!
FIND ME
NYA
WE'LL FIND PINK NOSE FOR SURE!!
YES, PACKING IN THE PEOPLE WITH THIS,
COME ON DOWN, CHALLENGERS!
WE DID THEM GOOD!!

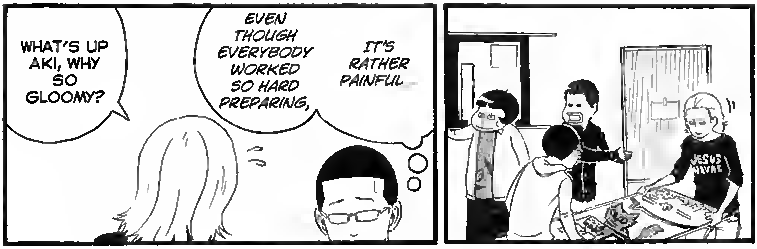
LET'S GO!!

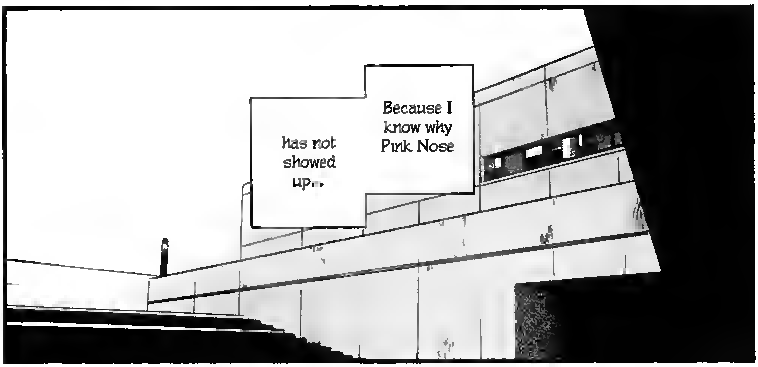
WORKING ON THE SIGN-BOARDS UP TO THE DAY BEFORE THE FESTIVAL...
SOMEHOW WE MANAGED IT!!

THEN RIGHT AWAY,

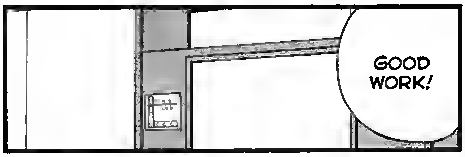

We did it, we did it!
We made the sign-boards!
.....


YES SIR!!
AND THIS BY THE FACULTY BUILDING!! LET'S DO IT RIGHT!!
THIS ONE BY THE LIBRARY,
THIS ONE IN FRONT OF THE STATION,
LET'S GO SET THEM UP!!


WHAT'S UP AKI, WHY SO GLOOMY?
EVEN THOUGH EVERYBODY WORKED SO HARD PREPARING,
IT'S RATHER PAINFUL...


Because I know why Pink Nose has not showed up...

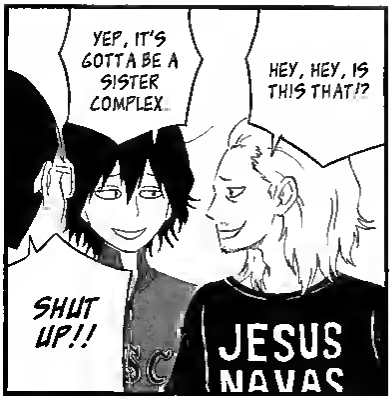
OH!!
WHAT IS THIS?
ACCEPT IT WITH MY THANKS.

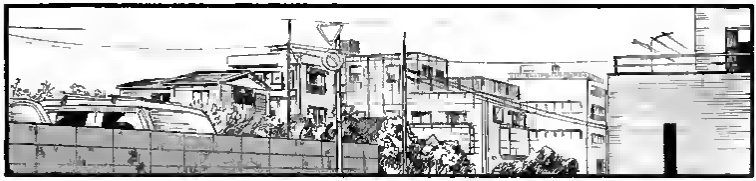

GOOD WORK!

?
YES, AND BECAUSE YOU ALL WORKED SO HARD,
HAVE THIS!!

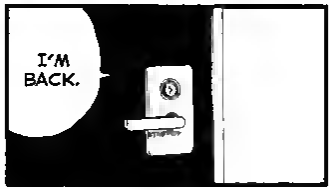
WHEN DID YOU BUY THEM!?
HOW'D YOU DO THIS!?
OOH!!
IS THIS TAKO-YAKI!?
ESHCUUSHE MEE, I'M ACCEPTING IT WITH THANKS!!
SO THAT'S IT: THEY WERE FREE.
...WHAT? YOU DON'T HAVE TO EAT THEM IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.
PLUN-DER...?
NO BIG DEAL. I HAVE FRIENDS AT A FOOD STAND.
I PLUNDERED THE RESULTS OF THEIR TEST RUNS.
PERHAPS... I COULD GIVE IT TO MILL-CHAN?
HM? AKI, AREN'T YOU EATING?
WELL...
Even showing affection as hard as you can time is headed Make time reward her and an effort to follow
REWARD HER
HUH!? THAT'S IT...
I'LL USE IT FOR THE FOLLOW-THROUGH!!

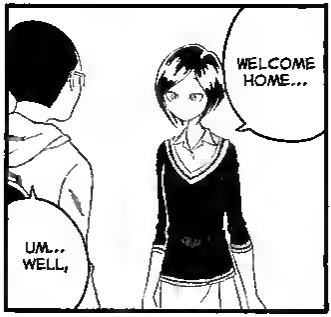
WELL, IT'LL BE NICE
IF THIS CURES HER BAD MOOD


YEP, IT'S GOTTA BE A SISTER COMPLEX
HEY, HEY, IS THIS THAT!?
SHUT UP!!
JESUS



THIS... IS A PRESENT ...
EH...?


I'M BACK.

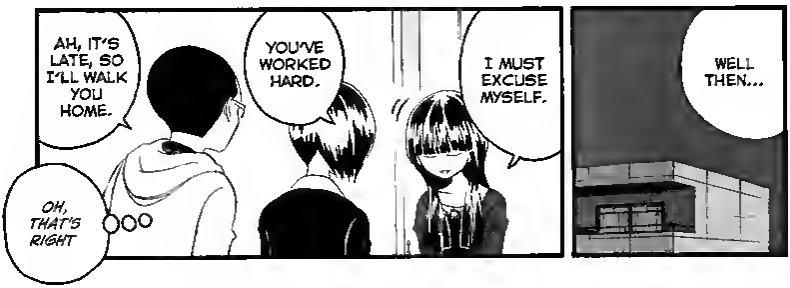

WELCOME HOME...
UM... WELL,

I'M GLAD...
PHEW.
IT'S TAKO-YAKI!
TH, THANK YOU...
YE, YES... THEY MAY HAVE BEEN AMATEURS, BUT IT TASTES GOOD, DON'T YOU THINK? THE OTHERS TOO...
WHY...?
...A FESTIVAL FOOD STAND?
AH, IT WAS A TEST RUN FOR ONE OF THE FOOD STANDS AT THE STUDENT FESTIVAL.
!?
WHO MADE THIS?
WHY DID YOU ACCEPT THIS FOR ME?
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE IT FOR THE FESTIVAL!?

BUT,
BUT...
THAT'S NO GOOD!!
HUH? IT'S OKAY, IT'S JUST A LITTLE ADVANCE SAMPLE.
.....
.....!?
HEY MILL, YOU KNOW...
.....
DING-DONG
AH, IS IT TIME FOR HANA TO GET HERE?
?
WHAT IS IT!? WHAT IS GOING ON!?

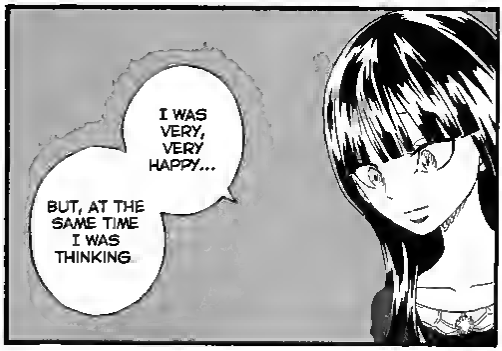
AKI-SAN, GOOD EVENING.
YES, GOOD EVE-NING...
AH... WELCOME.
DON'T MIND ME.
It's gotten kinda cold out, hasn't it
Sure has.
.....
BUT THOUGH I'VE KNOWN HER MORE THAN TEN YEARS,
I KNOW NOTH-ING...
My paws got cold
Been there, done that.
...EVEN THOUGH THOSE TWO HAVEN'T KNOWN EACH OTHER LONG,
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY REALLY UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER

a barrier between man and cat.



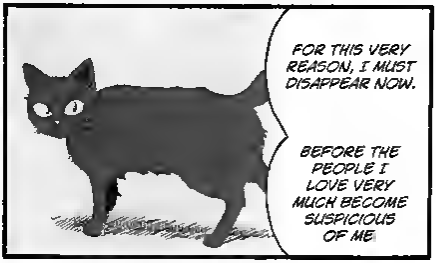
EH? IS IT OCTOPUS ...?
WELL, HERE... HARUOMI GAVE ME THIS TAKOYAKI, BUT... WOULD YOU LIKE IT?
MILL WAS HAPPY AT FIRST, BUT WHEN SHE FOUND OUT IT WAS FROM THE FESTIVAL, SHE GOT MAD FOR SOME REASON.
WHAT HAP-PENED?
PEEK BACK
WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT NOW?
EH? SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED?
HE TOOK ME TO THE CLINIC WHEN I GOT HURT,
YES... HE SAVED ME WHEN I WAS BEING TOR-MENTED,
HE'S A NICE PERSON, ISN'T HE?
HE IS?
AH, NO... AAH, WAS IT HARUOMI-SAN THAT GAVE IT TO YOU?
HM?
RUMOR HAS IT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND HUMAN SPEECH.
SO THERE IS SOMETHING I'D LIKE ASK YOU.
HEY, PINK NOSE...
AND BESIDES THAT...

WOULD YOU
LIVE TOGETHER WITH ME?


I WAS VERY, VERY HAPPY...
BUT, AT THE SAME TIME I WAS THINKING

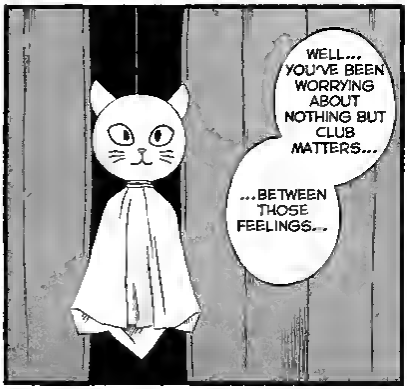
...EH?
I HAVE BEEN A STRAY FOREVER...
SO I'VE ALWAYS LONGED TO BE A HOUSE -CAT...

SO, SO THAT'S WHY YOU DISAP-PEARED?
THEN, DID HARUOMI
REALIZE THAT HE HAD SHOT HIMSELF IN THE FOOT!?

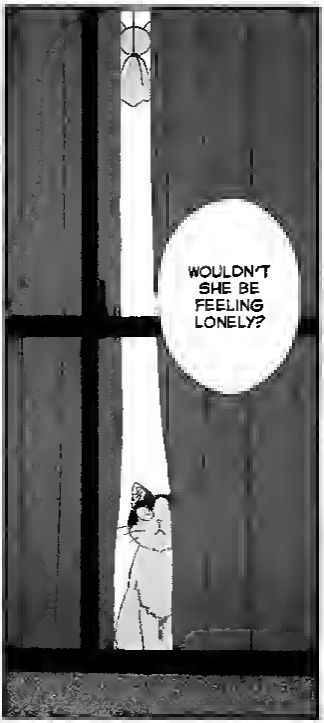

FOR THIS VERY REASON, I MUST DISAPPEAR NOW.
BEFORE THE PEOPLE I LOVE VERY MUCH BECOME SUSPICIOUS OF ME

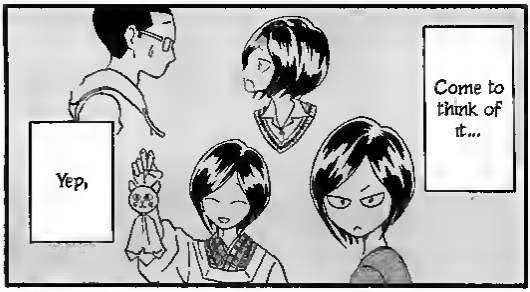
...HEY, HANA.
UMM...
TO FIND HER...
FOR SURE... AND THAT'S THE REASON HE'S BEEN SO DESPERATE
...BE CAREFUL.
EH?
SO YOU DON'T GET CAUGHT...
BE IN HUMAN FORM OR STAY IN HIDING...
THE DAYS OF THE FESTI-VAL...
.....
EXCUSE ME...

YES?
URGENT NOTICE
THIS EVENING, IN REPARATION FOR THE FESTIVAL, THE COLLEGE WILL BE CLOSED. DO WHAT YOU WANT TO, YOU'RE A REAL BUNCH OF SCUM. LOOK AT YOURSELVES!!!
--UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT
ER, ERR... SOMETHING I REMEMBER ABOUT THE FESTIVAL...
MILL-SAN ...
...ERR ...
HM?
甘すぎ
カツ丼
WELL... WHEN THE FESTIVAL WAS MENTIONED, SOMETHING SEEMED TO BE BOTHERING HER...
OH? WHAT, IN PARTICULAR...
IS THERE ANYTHING SHE WILL BE DOING APART FROM HER PART-TIME JOB?
EH, WHY?
!!
WELL... WE TALKED ABOUT WANDERING AROUND THE STALLS TOGETHER ON THE LAST DAY, IF HER JOB LETS HER GO...
THE THING THAT HAS BEEN BOTHERING MILL-SAN ...
?
IS... ISN'T THAT IT?

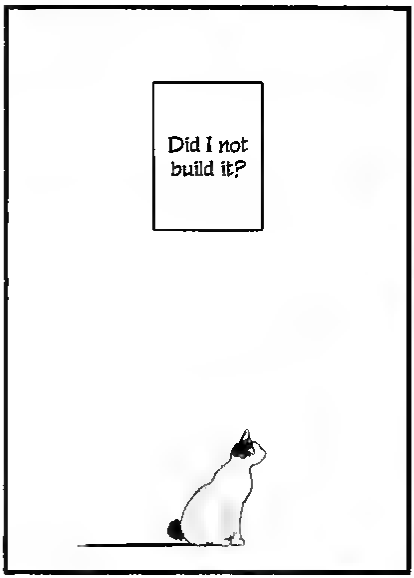

WELL... YOU'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT NOTHING BUT CLUB MATTERS...
...BETWEEN THOSE FEELINGS...

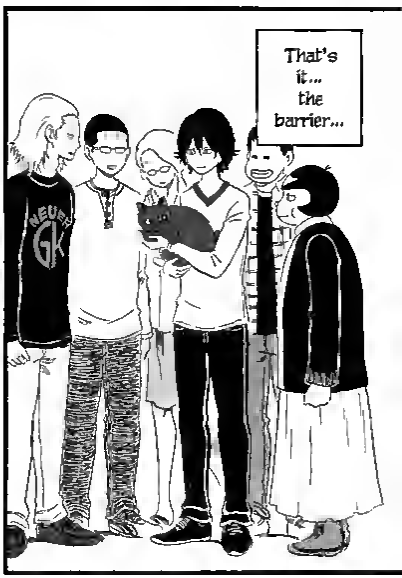
IS SURELY YOUR GOING AROUND TOGETHER... SHE'S BEEN VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
BUT YOU,

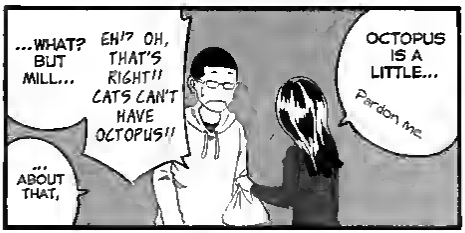

WOULDN'T SHE BE FEELING LONELY?

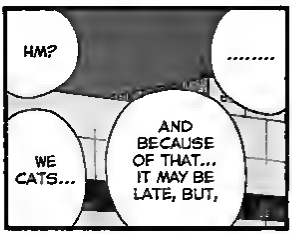

Yep,
Come to think of it...

AH...

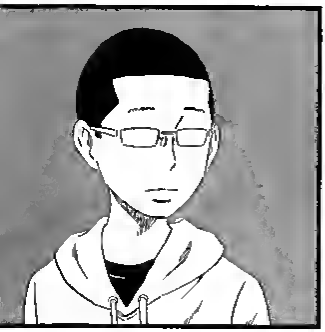

Did I not build it?


That's it... the barrier...

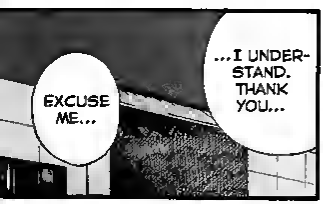

...WHAT? BUT MILL...
EH!? OH, THAT'S RIGHT!! CATS CAN'T HAVE OCTOPUS!!
OCTOPUS IS A LITTLE...
Pardon me
... ABOUT THAT,

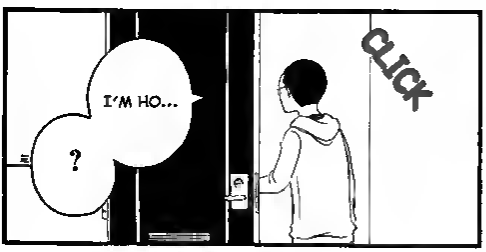

HM?
.....
WE CATS...
AND BECAUSE OF THAT... IT MAY BE LATE, BUT,

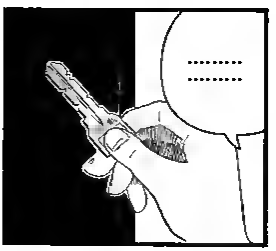
THAT YOU WERE CONCERNED WITH HER.
SHE WAS PLEASED, FOR SURE.



AND AT THE FESTIVAL... PLEASE PAY ATTENTION.
TO MILL -SAN...

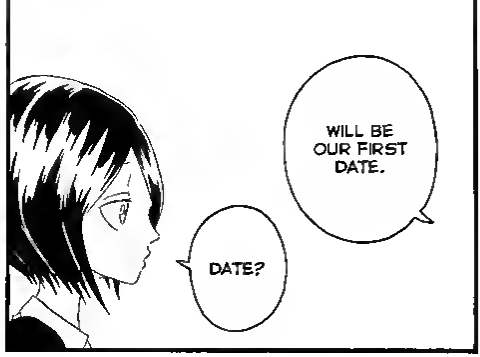

EXCUSE ME...
...I UNDER-STAND. THANK YOU...

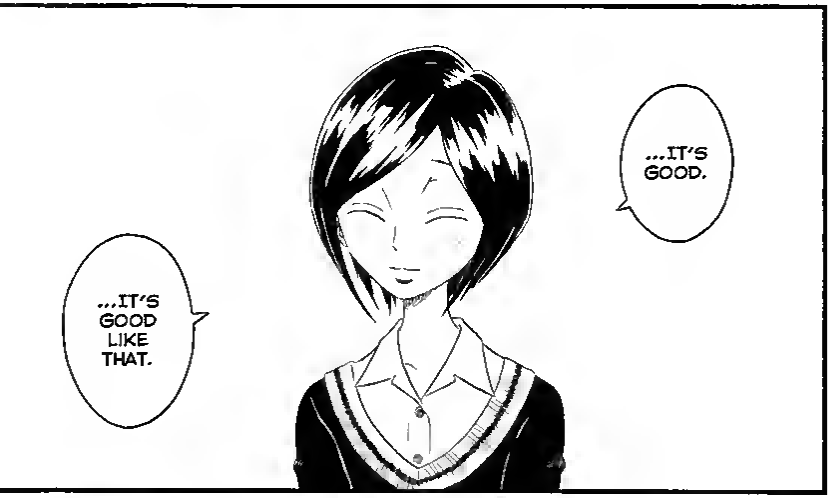

I'M HO...
?
CLICK


.....
.....

PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
EH?
WHAT... WHAT'S WRONG?
ERR...
.....
TAKOYAKI... THOUGH YOU WENT TO THE TROUBLE OF BRINGING IT TO ME...
BEG YOUR PARDON.
I DIDN'T THINK IT THROUGH.
...NO.
...I, RATHER,
THE LAST DAY,
EH...?
I DIDN'T CONSIDER HOW YOU WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.

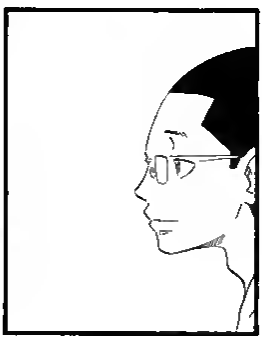
OOPS DID I SAY THAT!?
...YES, YOU DID,
RATS IN MY RUSH, I SAID SOMETHING EMBARRASSING

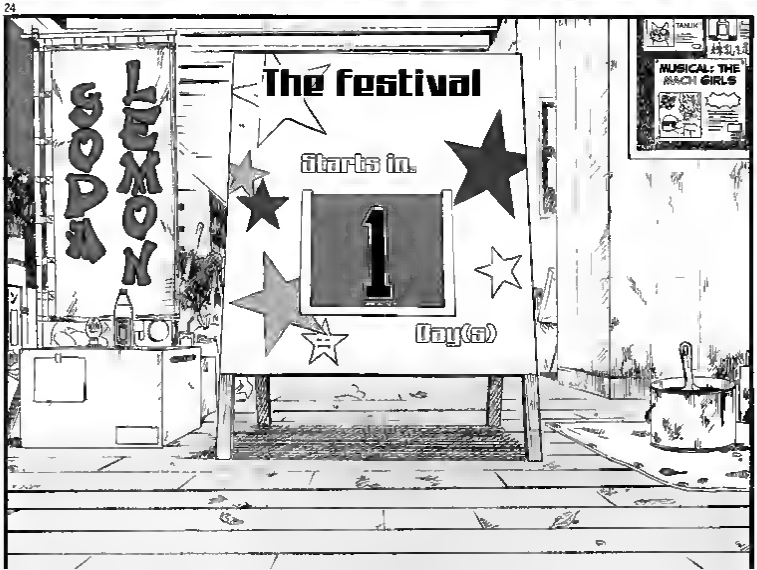

WILL BE OUR FIRST DATE.
DATE?


...IT'S GOOD.
...IT'S GOOD LIKE THAT.

SHALL I MAKE A "WEATHER CAT" TOO?
EH? YOU WANT TO?

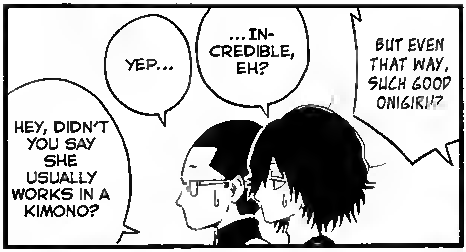
?
AH... WELL THEN...
I WILL RETURN THE TAKOYAKI TO HARUOMI TOMORROW...

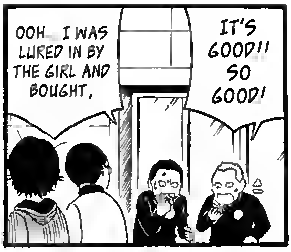


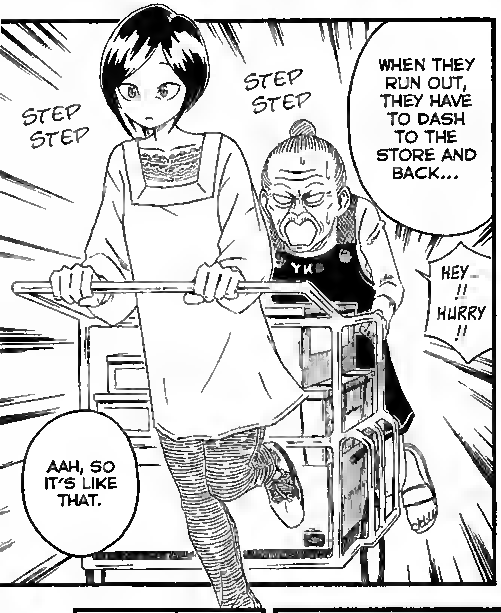

LEMON SODA
The festival
Starts in.
1
Day(s)
MUSICAL: THE MACHI GIRLS

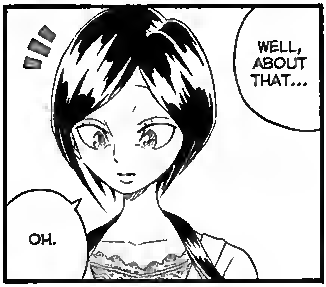
SCENE 13
SEE YOU... LATER...
MISO DENGAKU
Syrupy
Shaved Ice
LOOK OVER HERE!!
BANANA
CHOCO
So Much Personality!!
ODEN
HEY, COME OVER HERE!!
THIS LINE...
BUT MILL-CHAN IS AMAZING.
STACKED UP...
Made by Aki
THAT "WEATHER CAT" REALLY DID ITS JOB...
IT'S ALREADY THE LAST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL. SO FAST.
AND ALL FOUR DAYS HAVE BEEN SUNNY, AKI.

SCANLATION BY RPAPO

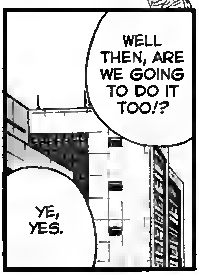

BUT EVEN THAT WAY, SUCH GOOD ONIGIRI!?
...IN-CREDIBLE, EH?
YEP...
HEY, DIDN'T YOU SAY SHE USUALLY WORKS IN A KIMONO?

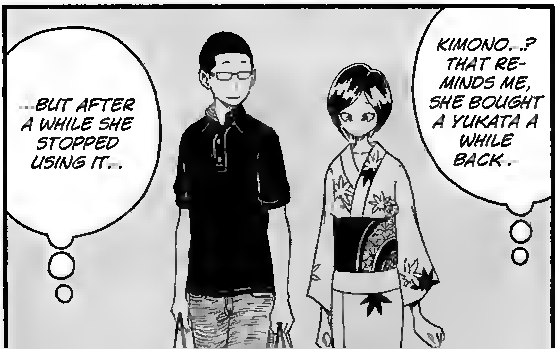

OOH... I WAS LURED IN BY THE GIRL AND BOUGHT,
IT'S GOOD!! SO GOOD!


STEP STEP
STEP STEP
WHEN THEY RUN OUT, THEY HAVE TO DASH TO THE STORE AND BACK...
HEY-!! HURRY!!
AAH, SO IT'S LIKE THAT.


WELL, ABOUT THAT...
OH.

IF THAT'S SO, THEN LET'S GO!!
SHOP-KEEPER-SAN!!
YES MA'AM!!
WE'RE SOLD OUT!!

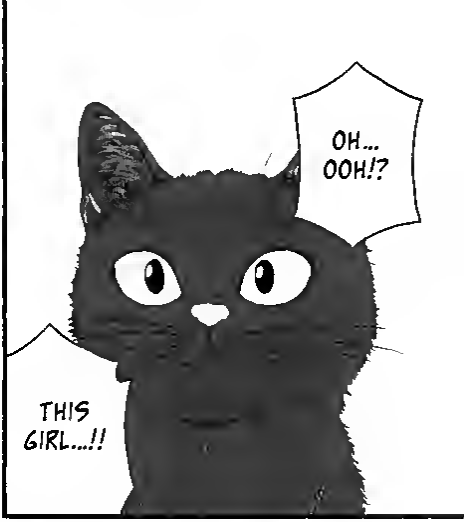

WELL THEN, ARE WE GOING TO DO IT TOO!?
YE, YES.

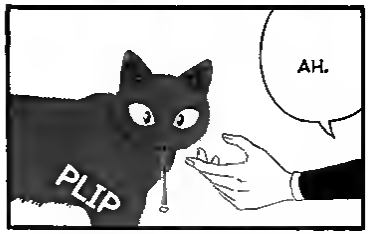

...BUT AFTER A WHILE SHE STOPPED USING IT..
KIMONO..? THAT RE-MINDS ME, SHE BOUGHT A YUKATA A WHILE BACK.

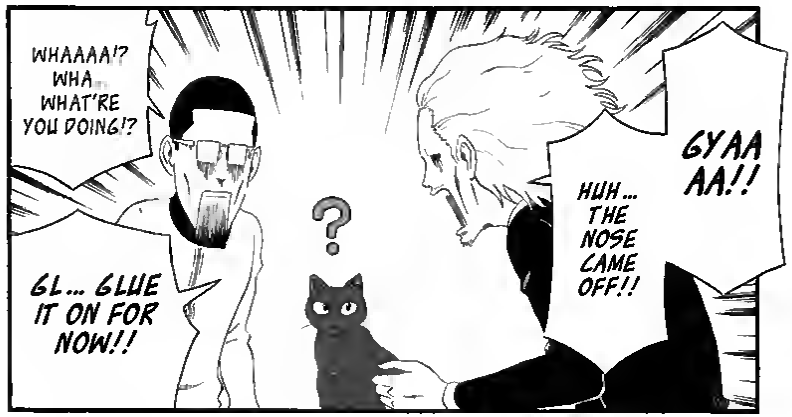
WHOOOOOAAAA
WITH THAT, STAAARR-RTTT!!
IT'S GETTING TIGHT IT'S THE LAST DAY, WITH ONLY THE AFTERNOON LEFT!!
GIVE US A GOOD SHOUT AND GET SEARCH-ING!!
I'M ABSOLUTELY GOING!! TO THE "SUPER DUPER LOOPER" CONCERT!!
"The festival guest that finds the missing black cat will get the concert tickets."
and more people showed up than expect-ed...
The last day arrived without anything being found yet.
The event our club planned was carried out.
TODAY, FOR SURE, SOME-HOW...
FINALLY, TODAY'S THE LAST DAY.
AH, YES...
...BUT I REALLY WONDER WHY THIS BAND IS SO POPULAR...

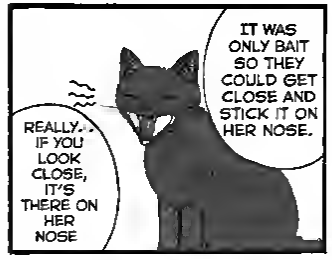
I OUGHTA GET SOME-THING!!
DOSUKOOI
...BUT, IT'S NOSE ISN'T PINK!!
NO WAY!!
T/N: THIS CAT IS A SUMO WRESTLER
I FOUND IT..!!
JUST LIKE THAT!?
OH!?
YEAH, SHE ISN'T COMING - AT ANY RATE THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID HERSELF..
HAA~~~ EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE BRINGING IN LOTS OF BLACK CATS...
PINK NOSE ISN'T SHOWING UP...
EH!?
I, I FOUND IT!! THE PINK NOSED BLACK CAT!!
PINK NOSE SEARCH HEAD QUARTERS
THE FINGER POINTS TO A CONFIDENT
EVEN KNOWING THAT HARUOMI WAS GOING TO FEEL DISAPPOINTED FOR A LONG TIME AFTERWARDS
OH, SOMEBODY ELSE HAS COME.
NOT A GOOD THING AT ALL..

SHE, SHE'S FINALLY FOUND...?
IT REALLY IS!! SHE HAS A PINK NOSE!!


OH... OOH!?
THIS GIRL...!!

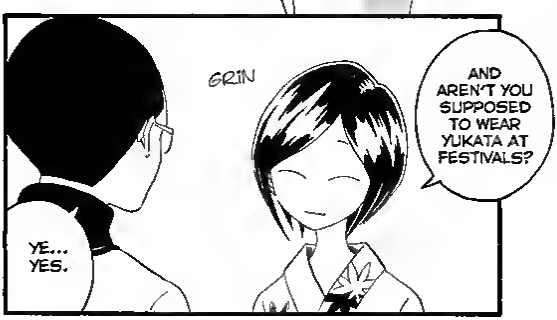

AH.
PLIP

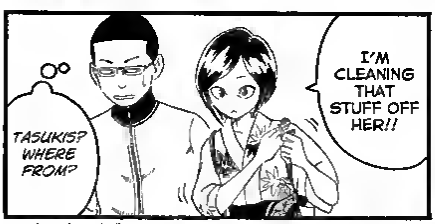

WHAAAA!? WHA... WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
GL... GLUE IT ON FOR NOW!!
?
HUH... THE NOSE CAME OFF!!
GYAA AA!!

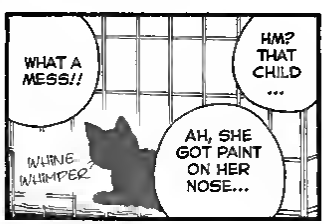

REALLY.. IF YOU LOOK CLOSE, IT'S THERE ON HER NOSE
IT WAS ONLY BAIT SO THEY COULD GET CLOSE AND STICK IT ON HER NOSE.

EH!?
HMM... THIS,
...IS TUNA -FISH?

HERE, THERE'S ONE LEFT...
What they brought over...
HUH!?
WHINE, WHINE
FUSHY!! THAT'S A FLUSH TOY!!
Some of them desperate,
There's a tag.
SORRY!! THAT'S A TANUKI WITH A DROOPING MASK!!
After that more contestants...
Cute tanuki though.
YOU SCUM-BAG...
WHAT!! SMEARED ALL OVER HER!?
THIS IS FAINT!!
WAIT A SECOND... SOMETHING'S WRONG... AH!?
HEHEHE ... THE REAL THING.
IS, IS THAT PINK NOSE!?
MASUDA
!?
ARE YOU... PREPARED FOR YOUR FATE...?
AKI-CHAN!!
WILL THIS STUFF COME OFF WHEN WE WASH HER?
NOW, NOW, POOR GIRL...
WHIMPER
RIP
CRUNCH
BREAK
ORU-AAAAAAAA!!!



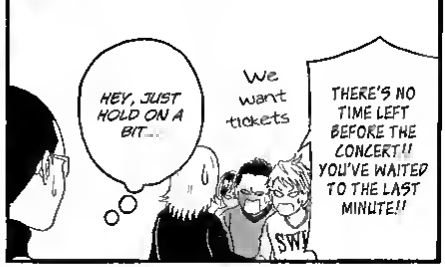




T/N A "TASUKI" IS A CORD USED TO TUCK UP THE SLEEVES OF A KIMONO

WHAT'S THIS? MILL -CHAN?
I'M GLAD, I'M GLAD.
OH, WON-DER-FUL!!
THERE, I GOT IT OFF.
EH!?
IT'S... IT'S ALREADY FIVE O'CLOCK!! TIME'S UP...
OH!
AKI -CHAN'S ALWAYS NEED-ING...
AH, ARE YOU AKI'S RUMORED YOUNGER SISTER?
.....
.....
OKAY... BUT...
IT'S A SHAME, BUT WITH THESE...
HEEEY, WE'VE BEEN WAITING!!
WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

PINK NOSE NEVER SHOWED UP..!!
EVEN THOUGH THE SEARCH RAN ON THIS LATE...


HEY, JUST HOLD ON A BIT...
We want tickets
THERE'S NO TIME LEFT BEFORE THE CONCERT!! YOU'VE WAITED TO THE LAST MINUTE!!
SWV

THEN... IF... AT THE VERY LEAST, DID YOU CHECK OUT THE STANDS?
.....
.....!!
...NO.
KAIDO

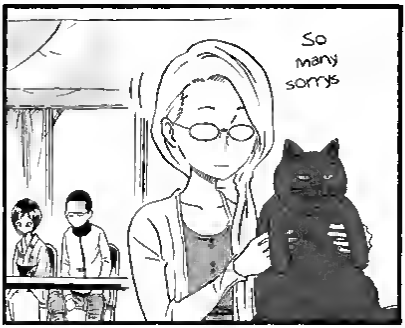
HEY...
BESIDES, AFTER THIS WITH MILL...
WE CAN'T, AKI -CHAN!!

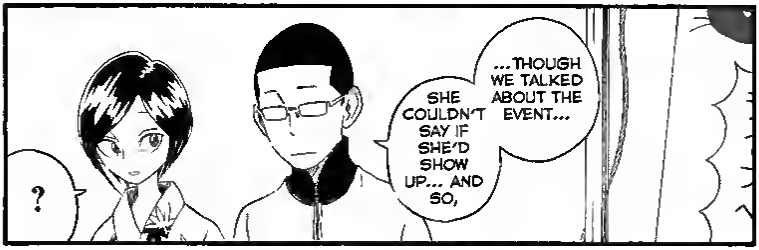
BUT WHAT ABOUT HANA!?
WE CAN'T LET THEM REALIZE WHAT IS GOING ON!!
FOR THAT VERY REASON, WE CAN'T LET THEM REALIZE!
PINK NOSE SEARCH HEAD QUARTERS

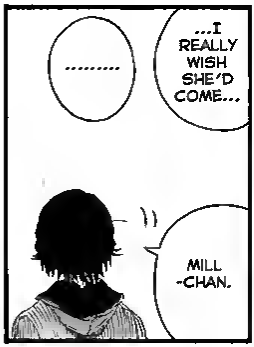
BECAUSE THERE'S NO POINT IN WANDERING AROUND ALONE.

I WONDER,
タルタルソース
SAKE
TAMA
Crepe
WHAT IS HANA -CHAN DOING?

DOSUKOI
AS EX-PECTED...
WHAT... WHAT A SHAME, THIS ONE...


So many sorrys


?
SHE COULDN'T SAY IF SHE'D SHOW UP... AND SO,
...THOUGH WE TALKED ABOUT THE EVENT...


.....
...I REALLY WISH SHE'D COME...
MILL -CHAN.

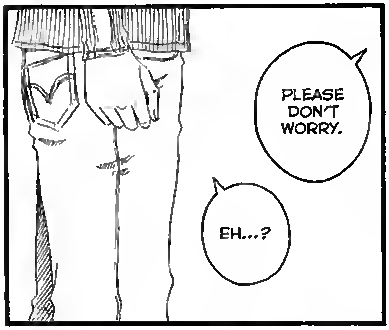
" Be careful "
"So you don't get caught. "
"Eh?"
. . .

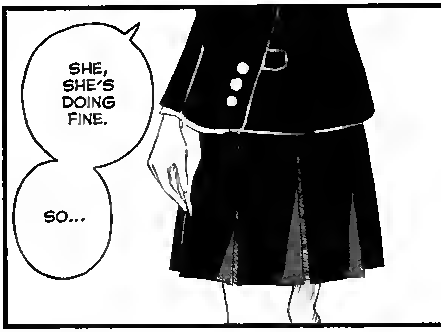
BUT... WEREN'T YOU WORKING THE WHOLE TIME?
DON'T YOU WANT TO WANDER THE STALLS A LITTLE BIT?
EH? WELL, ABOUT THAT...
NO PROBLEM, I WANTED TO FIND
PINK NOSE -CHAN TOO.
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU HELP.
COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT'S A YUKATA...
...WAS THAT, PERHAPS, WHAT YOU HAD PLANNED?
.....
YOU, YOU CAN'T! TO THE END...
...NO.
!!
CLATTER
...AS I THOUGHT, IT'S ALREADY TIME TO END IT.
REALLY... I'M SORRY

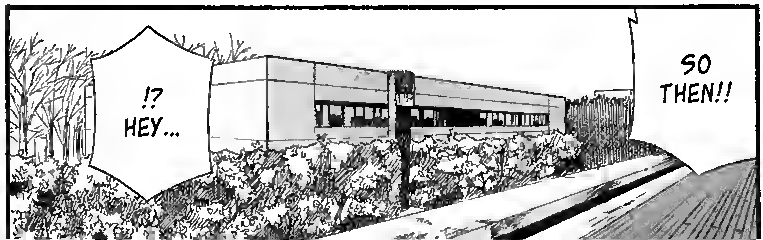
WELL, IN SHORT...
I WAS DUMPED.
SHE'S OKAY... I JUST FEEL IT SOMEHOW.
SHE'S DOING FINE. SHE SIMPLY DIDN'T COME.
?
HEY... ABOUT HER...
A, ABOUT THAT...

CO, COMING IN HUMAN FORM
FROM THE CO-OP...?
EH...? WHO ARE YOU...?
WHISPER, WHISPER
YEAH...

YOU'RE WRONG.
INK
OSE
ARCH
EAD-
UAR-
TERS


PLEASE DON'T WORRY.
EH...?


SHE, SHE'S DOING FINE.
SO...


!? HEY...
SO THEN!!

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO CARES FOR PINK NOSE!?
WHAT!? WHAT WAS IT YOU JUST SAID!?
PLE... PLEASE LET ME GO!!
STRUGGLING
!?
WAIT!!
GRAB
...WOW, ...HA HA...
COULD YOU TELL ME QUICKLY
!!
YE, YES I AM!!
.....
REALLY. ...I'M ASKING YOU.
...ERR... IF SHE'S MADE HERSELF DEAR TO YOU?
UH... YES...

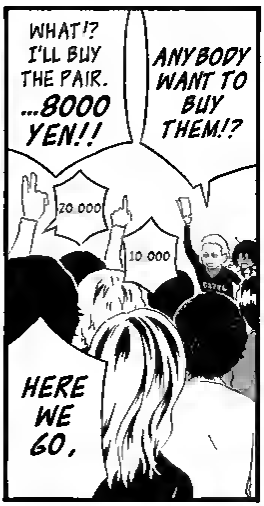
I'LL... I'LL MAKE YOU SEE HER BEFORE LONG...
...MAYBE...
EH...?
AH... WELL...
?
WELL, WELL, ISN'T THAT NICE?
YES, REALLY. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN.
"MAKE ME SEE"...? NOT "I'LL BRING HER"...?
LATER!!
AH...
OH? WELL, IN THAT CASE...
UHHHH... THOUGH... SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GIRL SAYS SHE'S GOT A BOY-FRIEND.
EH? WELL, THESE ...
SHALL WE SELL THE PRIZE TICKETS AND GO HAVE A PARTY!?
...YES,
THAT'S RIGHT.

HO HO, THEN...
AND I DON'T LISTEN TO THE LATEST MUSIC.
NO, NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT!!

I WAS GOING TO GIVE THEM TO MILL -CHAN...
BECAUSE I WAS SUCH A NUISANCE.
EH?

THEN THESE TICKETS...
Sound okay to you?
It's okay!
SHALL I TAKE THAT AS AN OFFER!?

OOOOHHH!!
FOLLOW ME!! WE'RE HAVING AN AUCTION IN FRONT OF THE CONCERT HALL!!
MARCHISIO
HEY... FRES...
PEL
GO FOR IT!!


WHAT!? I'LL BUY THE PAIR. ...8000 YEN!!
ANYBODY WANT TO BUY THEM!?
20,000
10,000
HERE WE GO,

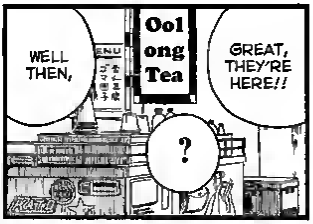
Do I heeeaaarrr

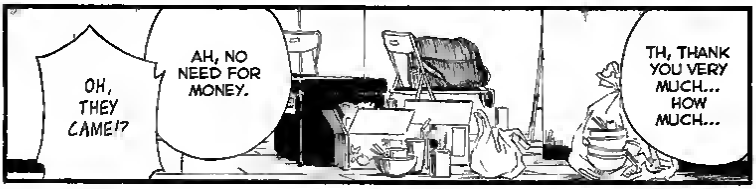
NO, I'M SIMPLY MAKING UP FOR MY MISTAKES.
JUST WHAT I CAN DO QUICKLY.
I'VE BEEN A PROBLEM FOR EVERY-BODY...
NO~ BUT THAT'S IT... IN THE END
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
I'VE JUST BEEN A CLOWN, SO TO SPEAK...
I'M SORRY, MILL -CHAN...
And Aki too.
?
SEE YOU.

FOR NOW, WHY DON'T WE GO AROUND ARE SEE
IF THERE AREN'T ANY STANDS STILL OPEN...
Y, YES...
WE'VE BEEN LEFT ALONE...
Tanmen
HEY, YOU TWO OVER THERE!!
?
EXCUSE ME...
Sold Out
Thank YOU
Thank you very much
...OF COURSE, EVERY-BODY'S ALREADY CLOSING...
THE PLACE HAS A NICE AMBI-ENCE...
FULL OF FUN...

EAT THIS!!
EH?
Kyaa
Soba

YOU TWO, HAVEN'T YOU EATEN YET?
UH... WELL, NO...

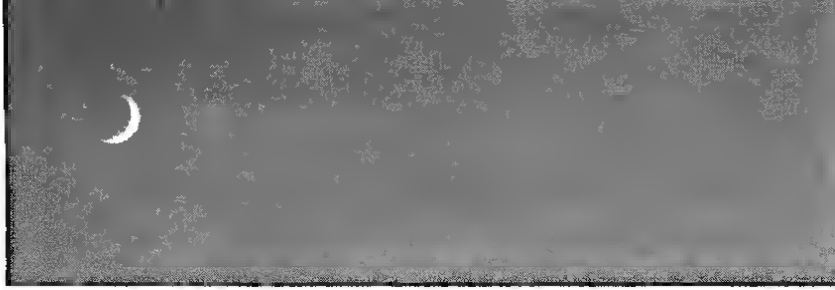

WELL THEN,
Oolong Tea
GREAT, THEY'RE HERE!!
?

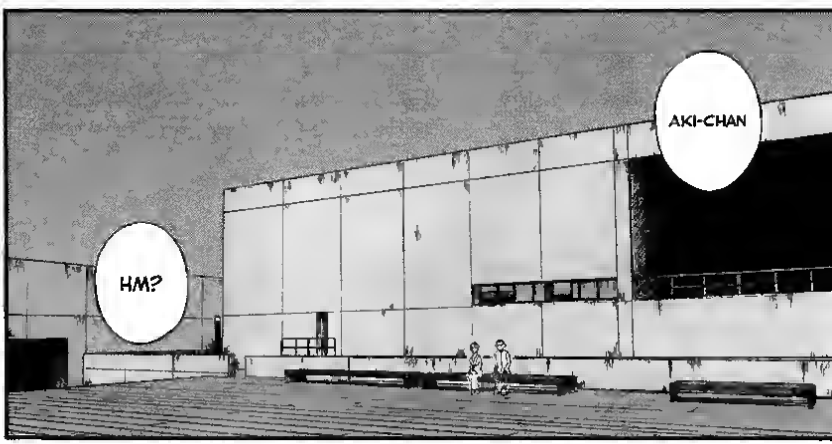

OH, THEY CAME!?
AH, NO NEED FOR MONEY.
TH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH... HOW MUCH...

WH, WHY LIKE THIS...?
CHICKEN WINGS
MEAT BALLS
祭
DUNNO ...

HERE, COTTON CANDY.
HERE, BEEF BOWL!!
WOW, IT'S HUGE!!
CREPES TOO!!

ミル
やきそば
YAKISOBA
ZOOM..
A little while ago, a guy with rumpled hair told them...
SHOW ME THE MONEY, THEN BY ALL MEANS
"Later, two people who haven't eaten will come by Make something for them."
EH, HEY...
HEEEYYY YOWWWW !!
AH... EXCUSE US...
YOU'RE GOOD, THOUGH. IT TURNED INTO A CLEARANCE OF LEFT-OVERS.
HERE, COME AND DO THIS TOO!!
HMM, ARE THESE GOOD TO EAT TOO?
WRONG !!




AKI-CHAN
HM?

YES, THEY'RE GOOD!!

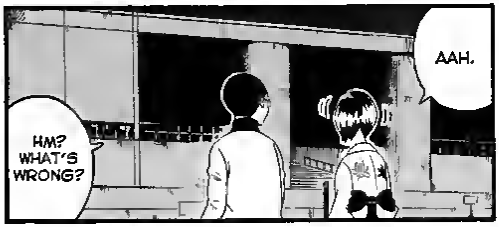
OH... I CAN HAVE ONE...?
...HAVE A TAKOYAKI.

FUFU... SO TRUE.
HURRYING OFF LIKE THAT, HE'S NOT GETTING HIS FILL EITHER.
HOWEVER... HARUOMI IS IMPATIENT TOO.

WHEN THAT MIGHT HAPPEN,
HE HAS NO IDEA...
...YES.
BUT... THAT WAS THE BEST GIFT HE COULD GIVE US.
ABOUT PINK NOSE, ABOUT WHEN HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEET HER,
EH?
...BUT HARUOMI...
I WONDER WHAT HE'S THINK-ING...
I DON'T THINK THINGS WILL BE AS THEY WERE BEFORE.
SO IT IS... IT'S UP TO HANA-CHAN, BUT AS FOR ME...
FWEEEEE...
OH?
FOR SURE...

SFX: BOOM
OOH FIREWORKS!
THE CONCERT MUST BE ENDING ...
OH WELL...

SEE YOU...
LATER.


AAH.
HM? WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S GOTTEN COMPLETELY QUIET...
HM... THE FESTIVAL ISN'T ENDING, IS IT...

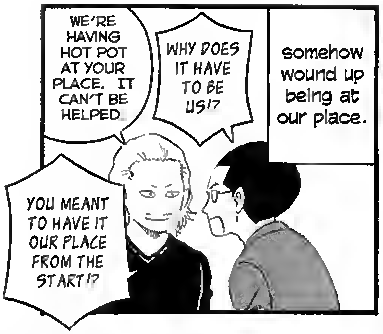
...JEEZ... ...
GET OVER HERE.
?

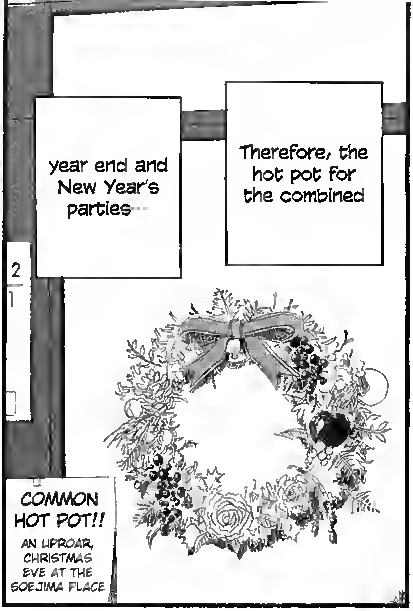
BECAUSE I WORE THIS USELESS YUKATA...
AH—— LOOK AT THIS.
I'VE, I'VE GOTTEN A LITTLE COLD...
Achoo!

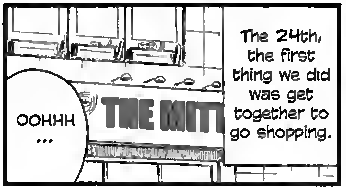
WELL...
EH? IN THAT CASE...
...ONCE WE'RE DONE EATING, WE'LL HEAD BACK.
LET'S TAKE OUR TIME EATING...

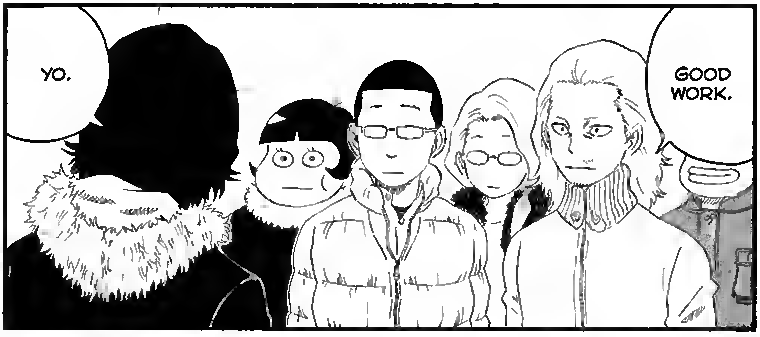
SCENE 14
BE HAPPY, OK?
WOW... IS IT ALREADY DECEMBER? JUST LIKE THAT, IT'S ALREADY WINTER.
FALL... IS OVER.
I WANT TO EAT SOMETHING WARM...
YEAH, IT'S CERTAINLY GOTTEN COLDER.
YEP, IT'S OVER. AKI IS COMPLETELY OVE...
I AM NOT THE REASON!!
DECEMBER 24TH.
...HOT POT?
WHICH REMINDS ME, PRESIDENT SAID THIS TIME WE'RE MAKING A HOT POT.
OH? WHEN?

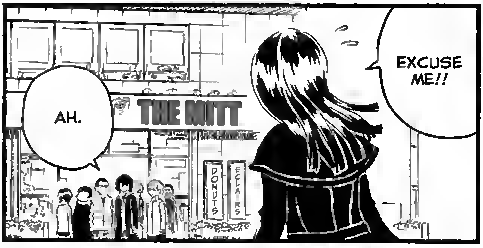
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

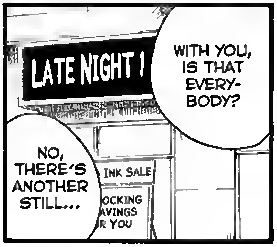

WE'RE HAVING HOT POT AT YOUR PLACE. IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE US!?
somehow wound up being at our place.
YOU MEANT TO HAVE IT OUR PLACE FROM THE START!?


year end and New Year's parties…
Therefore, the hot pot for the combined
2
1
COMMON HOT POT!!
AN UPROAR, CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE SOEJIMA PLACE

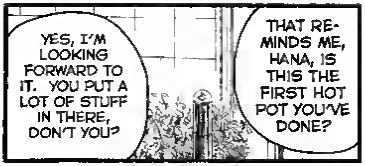

THE MITT
OOHHH…
The 24th, the first thing we did was get together to go shopping.

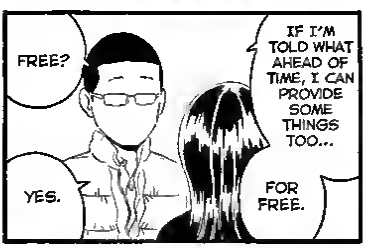

YO.
GOOD WORK.


THE MITT
AH.
EXCUSE ME!!

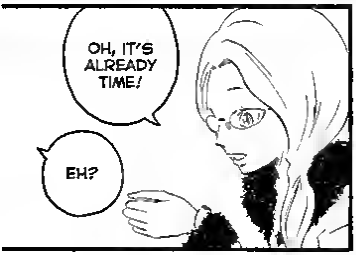

LATE NIGHT!
WITH YOU, IS THAT EVERY-BODY?
NO, THERE'S ANOTHER STILL…
INK SALE
OCKING AVINGS R YOU

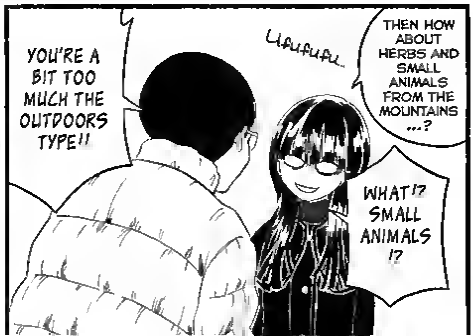
Since the festival, Hana, as 'Pink Nose's Master',
has been showing up now and then at our club.
YEAH, YEAH.
I WAS RUNNING LATE!!
WOULD IT BE BAD IF WE ALL CAME TO YOUR PLACE? WE WANT TO MEET PINK NOSE.
WEEELLL, THAT'S NOT QUITE POSSIBLE ...
HEY, AKI...
IS IT TOO CHEAP? CHRISTMAS MADNESS
That she really is a cat is a secret
YE, YES... IT SEEMS SOME THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.
DID YOU SAY HANA-CHAN LIVES BY HERSELF?
THAT SO...
Feeling chilly now and then
BECAUSE HER HOME...
IS THE LIBRARY.


YES, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT. YOU PUT A LOT OF STUFF IN THERE, DON'T YOU?
THAT REMINDS ME, HANA, IS THIS THE FIRST HOT POT YOU'VE DONE?

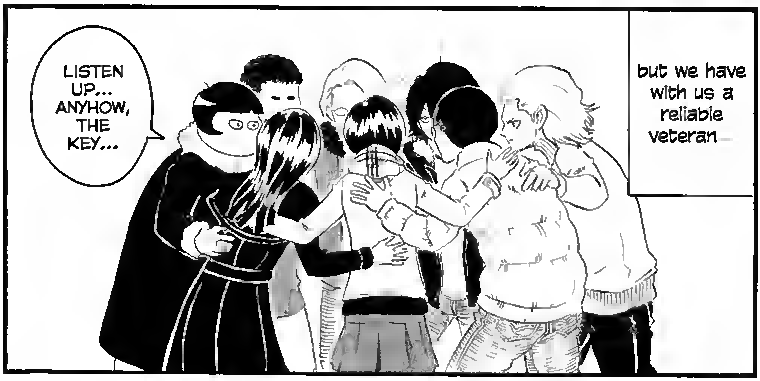


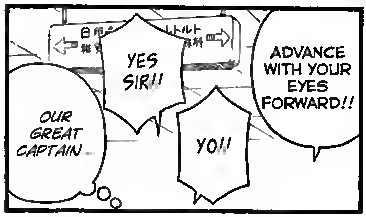
SFX. GET 'ER DONE...

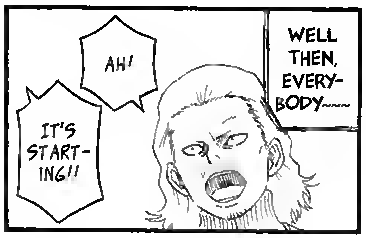


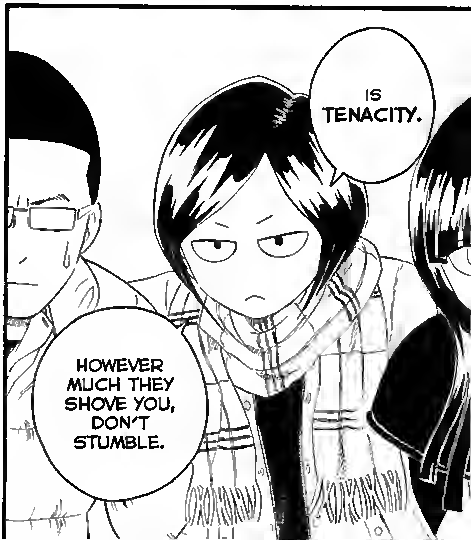

YOU'RE A BIT TOO MUCH THE OUTDOORS TYPE!!
Ufufufu
THEN HOW ABOUT HERBS AND SMALL ANIMALS FROM THE MOUNTAINS...?
WHAT!? SMALL ANIMALS!?

Normally, we strong students lack experience in such things, and the housewives beat us at it.
CHRISTMAS HOLY TIMESALE !!
We will be buying everything for today's hot pot at this time sale.
Welcome!
WELL, SHALL WE GET MOVING?
ALRIGHT, LET'S GIVE A GOOD SHOUT AND GO!!

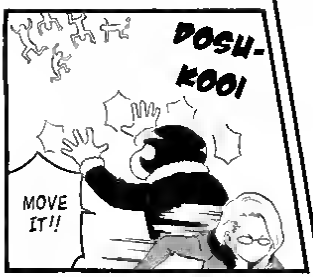

LISTEN UP... ANYHOW, THE KEY...
but we have with us a reliable veteran...

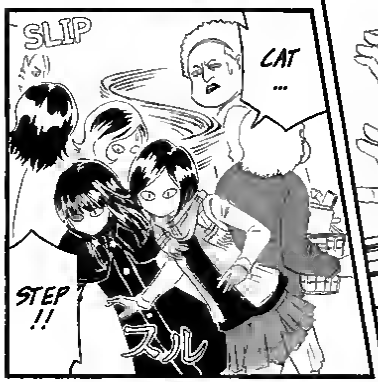

OUR GREAT CAPTAIN...
YES SIR!!
YO!!
ADVANCE WITH YOUR EYES FORWARD!!


AH!
IT'S START-ING!!
WELL THEN, EVERY-BODY.....

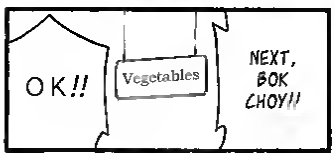

IS TENACITY.
HOWEVER MUCH THEY SHOVE YOU, DON'T STUMBLE.

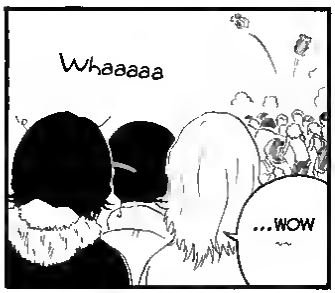
HOLY TIME SALE COUNT-DOWN IS START-ING!!
OH, IS THAT SO...?
YIPES!! I FORGOT ABOUT THE PREORDER I'LL BE SENT FLYING!!
WE CAN'T PICK UP THE CAKE WE RESERVED RIGHT AWAY?
AT LAST, THE CHRIST-MAS...
HEY, KATSUO -KUN.
WHAT IS IT, HANAKO...
LIKE YOU!!
CUT IT OUT, KATSUO -KUN...
BOILING BAGS
?
WELL... I THINK I'LL BE FINE WITHOUT THE CAKE.
SINCE I KNOW THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT SWEET THINGS...
POWER UP!!!
3, 2, 1...
THIS WAY I WON'T BE SENT FLYING
HM?
5, 4.....
YES, I TRUST YOU!!


DOSH-
KOO!
MOVE IT!!

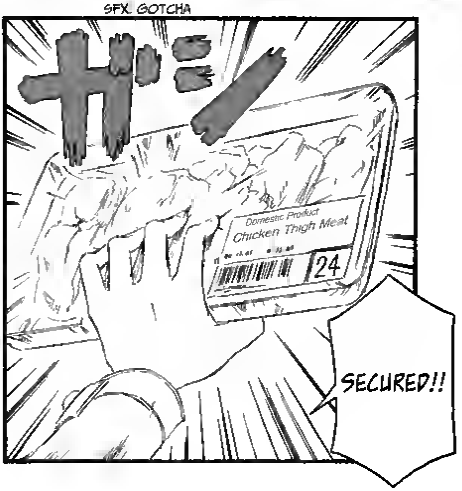

SLIP
CAT ...
STEP !!
スル

ZERO!!


OK!!
Vegetables
NEXT, BOK CHOY!!


Whaaaaa
...WOW

SFX: GOTCHA

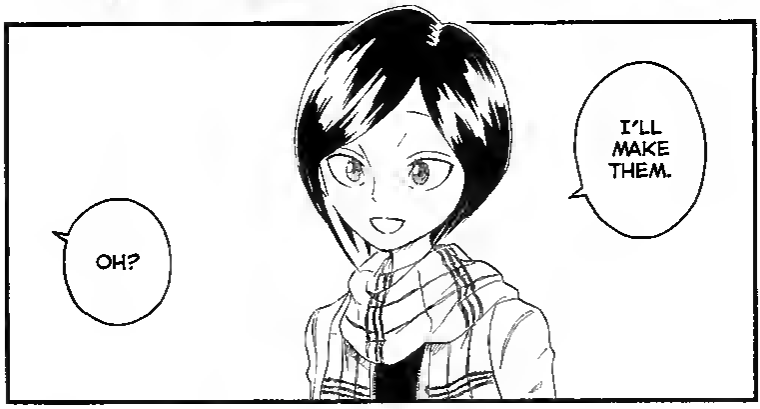

Domestic Product
Chicken Thigh Meat
24
SECURED!!

WAAAAAA
IT'S THE LAST ONE!!
TAKE IT!!
EH? HOLD...
WOMEN ARE STRONG, AREN'T THEY?
THEY GOT OFF TO A SLOW START, DIDN'T THEY?
HM?
AKI-CHAN!!
GEH
NICE CATCH!!
TAKE IT...!!
Well, between this and that...
YEP...
THUD THUD THUD
YAAAAAH!!
...SINCE WHEN HAS HE BECOME AN AMERICAN FOOTBALLER?
THAT WAS A GOOD PASS AND RECEIVE...

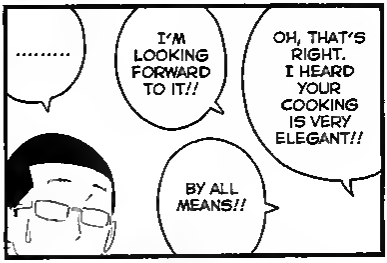
IS THERE ANYTHING MORE WE WANT TO STUFF IN HERE?
UDON!!
KUDZU NOO-DLES!!
FISH DUMP-LINGS!!
FISH
NOT YET. THIS IS JUST THE BASICS.
AREN'T WE BUYING TOO MUCH?
CREAK
HUH... ERR, WELL...
YOU MUST TREAT FOOD WITH RESPECT!!
DELICIOUS FOOD NEEDS NO EXCUSE!!
AH, AND THEN AFTER-WARDS ..
WE COULD MAKE KOREAN HOT POT LIKE THE STREET VENDORS...
SCARY INGREDI-ENTS!!
SHALL WE MAKE A SPOOKY HOT POT?
...AKI -CHAN.
WE COULD THROW IN CARP SUSHI AND HORSE MACKEREL.
ME NEITHER...
...I DON'T QUITE GET THEIR RELATIONSHIP, THOSE TWO.
I'm sorry
First of all, carp sushi

AH. IN THAT CASE,
IT'S NOT FOR THE HOT POT.
SAKE, OF COURSE, AND OTHER SIDE DISHES.

THEN UDON...?
AFTER-WARDS ...


I'LL MAKE THEM.
OH?

DON'T DO THAT TODAY...
PLEASE...


.....
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I HEARD YOUR COOKING IS VERY ELEGANT!!
BY ALL MEANS!!

HM? WHAT'S UP, AKI?
UM, WELL...
THEN THE SIDE DISHES ...
DELICA
TESSEN

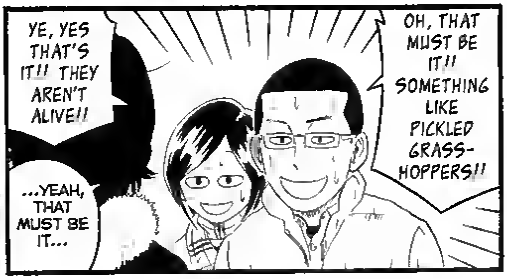
WELL, THAT MIGHT BE SO,
IT'S OKAY, I COULD DO IT AFTER-WARDS...
DON'T YOU THINK?
BECAUSE IT WOULD TAKE TIME, YOU'D HAVE TO DO IT BEFORE-HAND... I THINK...
EH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BECAUSE IF YOU'RE IN THE KITCHEN, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO WORK ON THE HOT POT...
.....
RIGHT...
MILL-CHAN, WON'T THE HOT POT BE SURROUNDED BY EVERYBODY?
AH, YOU CAN'T.
ALRIGHT THEN,
SHALL WE GO BUY SIDE DISHES?
YAMANASHI CARROTS
...YOU'RE RIGHT.
THANK YOU...

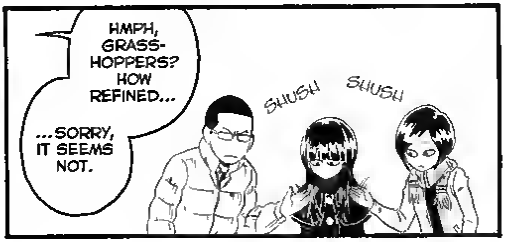
...GRASS-HOPPERS?
GRASS-HOPPERS AND SUCH..

Side Dishes
DELICATESSEN!!

YE-S, THERE IS...
HANA-CHAN, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU LIKE TO EAT?

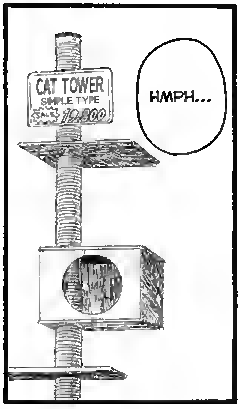
OR RATHER, THEY'RE JUST ABOUT SOLD OUT.
AH, YEAH...

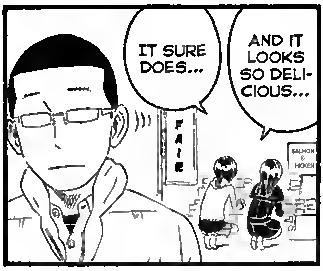

YE, YES THAT'S IT!! THEY AREN'T ALIVE!!
OH, THAT MUST BE IT!! SOMETHING LIKE PICKLED GRASS-HOPPERS!!
...YEAH, THAT MUST BE IT...

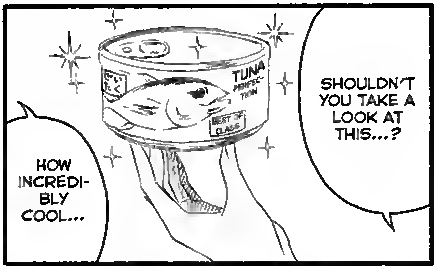

HMPH, GRASS-HOPPERS? HOW REFINED...
...SORRY, IT SEEMS NOT.
SHUSH
SHUSH

CHECKOUT COUNTER
Turkey like crazy!!
New Year's Party Foods
OH, GOOD IDEA!!
THE SHOP WHERE MILL-CHAN WORKS... 'MORINO', CAN'T WE GO THERE?
WON'T THERE BE SOME THINGS MILL-CHAN MADE?
AL-RIGHT, THAT'S IT!!
WELL THEN, SHALL WE GO PAY?
PET SHOP
BIELSA
THE MITT
WELL, WHAT NEXT? NEXT DOOR...
WASN'T THERE A PET SHOP?
YEAH... EVEN WHEN YOU'RE AT WITS END...
THE NEXT TIME I GO BACK HOME. HEY!?
EH!? AH, WELL, LOOK, I NEED TO GET SOUVENIRS FOR
SLAP, SLAP
SLAP, SLAP
AH, AND FOOD FOR US...
WELL, SHALL WE STOP BY FOR A BIT?
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TOYS FOR OUR CATS.
EH? WHY FOOD FOR YOU?

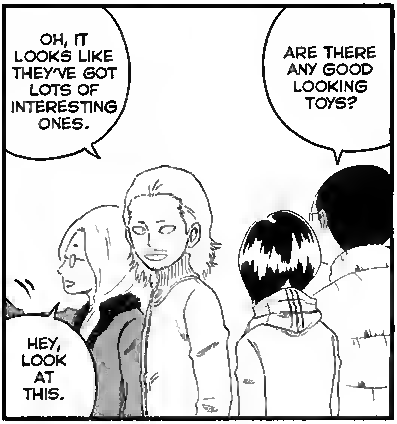
YES... AKI-CHAN,
DOSKOI CAT DIET
THIS IS SOMEWHAT NOURISHING, AND EVEN HEALTHY...
AND CHEAP. ISN'T IT THE BEST? EH, MILL...

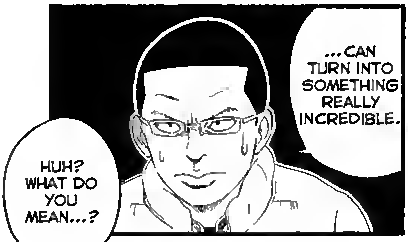

CAT TOWER
SIMPLE TYPE
¥2,000
HMPH...


IT SURE DOES...
AND IT LOOKS SO DELI-CIOUS...
FAIR

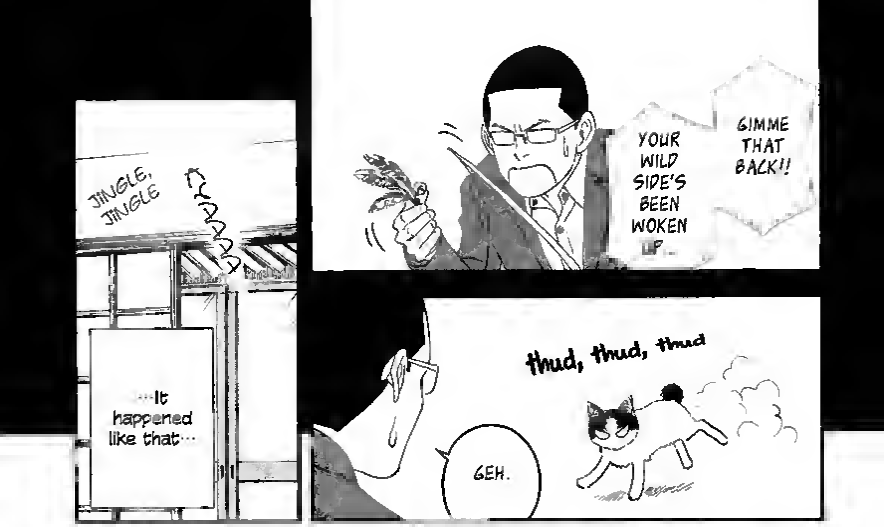

TUNA
BEST OF CLASS
SHOULDN'T YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...?
HOW INCREDI-BLY COOL...

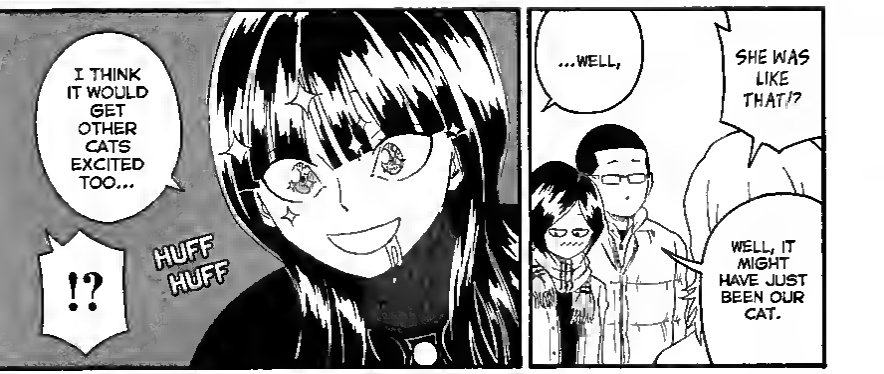
TH, THIS...
IT'S LIKE A BIRD FEATHER STUCK ON A FISHING POLE.


OH, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GOT LOTS OF INTERESTING ONES.
ARE THERE ANY GOOD LOOKING TOYS?
HEY, LOOK AT THIS.


...CAN TURN INTO SOMETHING REALLY INCREDIBLE.
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?

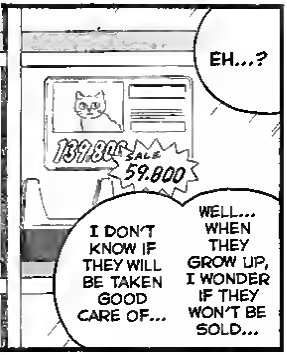
JINGLE, JINGLE
Ab-batched bell.
HEY LOOK, MILL. I'VE GOT YOU A NEW TOY.
Long ago, I bought something like this, but…
UH OH…
WHAT THE!!?
GRRRRRR…
SHE'S SCARY!!!
EH!?
POUNCE
CHOMP
HEEEYYY!!?

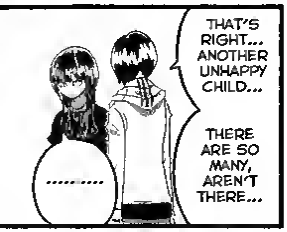

JINGLE, JINGLE
...It happened like that...
GIMME THAT BACK!!
YOUR WILD SIDE'S BEEN WOKEN UP...
thud, thud, thud
GEH.


I THINK IT WOULD GET OTHER CATS EXCITED TOO...
!?
HUFF HUFF
...WELL,
SHE WAS LIKE THAT!?
WELL, IT MIGHT HAVE JUST BEEN OUR CAT.

REALLY...
...I DON'T REALLY GET THEIR RELATIONSHIP, THOSE THREE.
TO YOURSELF!! SETTLE DOWN!!
COME BACK!!
NO WAY, NO WAY!!

THAT'S RIGHT!
WE HAVEN'T GONE OVER THERE YET.
OKAY THEN, LET'S GO PAY THE BILL...
HEY, HOLD ON.
YES.
YES, I WONDER IF SHE'LL TURN OUT REALLY PRETTY...
REALLY... CUTE...
.....
MEW
IT'S A KITTEN...
FUFU,
SHE'S CUTE.
CARRYBAGS 20% OFF
LITTER BOXES
HM, WHAT?
...ERR, MILL-SAN ...

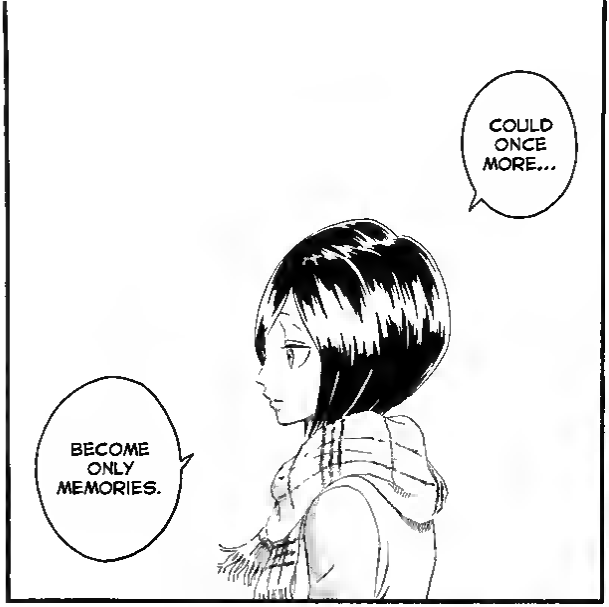

EH...?
SALE
59.800
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY WILL BE TAKEN GOOD CARE OF...
WELL... WHEN THEY GROW UP, I WONDER IF THEY WON'T BE SOLD...

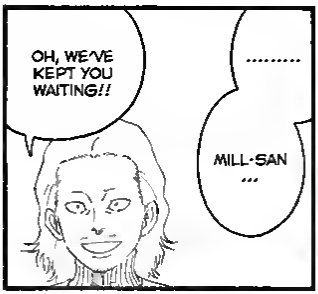

THAT'S RIGHT... ANOTHER UNHAPPY CHILD...
THERE ARE SO MANY, AREN'T THERE...
.....

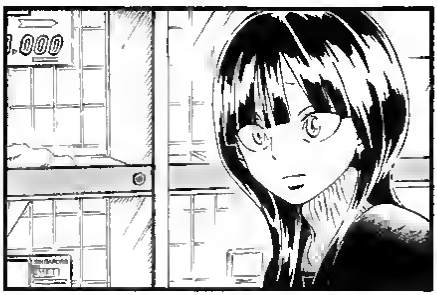
THESE KIDS... ERR...
DO YOU THINK THEY WILL BE HAPPY...?

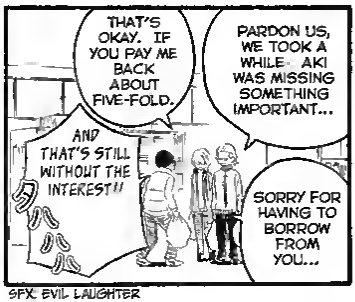
WE'VE HAD A FUN TIME JUST NOW.
I forgot my wallet
WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, WE ARE SURELY THE HAPPY ONES...
THAT'S FOR SURE...

...HOW-EVER,
?








THAT'S OKAY. IF YOU PAY ME BACK ABOUT FIVE-FOLD.
AND THAT'S STILL WITHOUT THE INTEREST!!
HAHAHA
PARDON US, WE TOOK A WHILE. AKI WAS MISSING SOMETHING IMPORTANT...
SORRY FOR HAVING TO BORROW FROM YOU...

SFX: EVIL LAUGHTER

CREAK...
GOOD EVENING...
WELCO... AH!!
もりの
NAME: MORINO
WHAT'S THIS? YOU GUYS?
EH?
NOT CHICKEN TENDER-LOIN...
ISN'T THAT ONE OF MY FAVORITES?
YEAH... IT KINDA LOOKS LIKE IT.
WELL... IT'S CHRIST-MAS, AND BUSINESS IS SLOW, THE SIDE DISHES ...
CHICKEN?
I WAS TALKING WITH THIS GIRL, AND CHICKEN...
THOUGH WE ALSO TRIED TO MAKE A CHRISTMAS MENU...

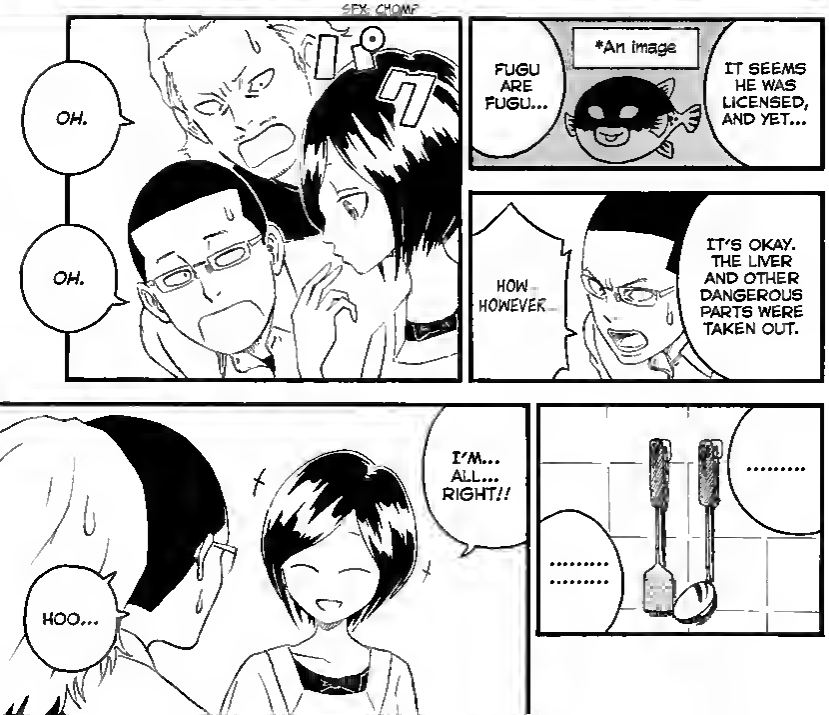
WON'T YOU COME AGAIN?
BY THE WAY, WHO ARE THEY?
WE'RE ALL IN A CLUB AT COLLEGE.
WELL, ISN'T THAT GOOD?
WE'RE BUYING A FEW SIDES FOR SAKE
EH? TAKE YOUR PICK...
?
AH, THEN I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.
WHAT IS IT? THAT'S STRANGELY GENEROUS OF YOU...
WHAT, YOU ASK...
WE'RE MAKING A HOT POT.
HOT POT, EH...?
WELL, ERR...
IT'S FUGU!

HE WAS DRUNK!? THAT'S SCARY!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. THAT PERSON SAID "I'M QUALIFIED TO PREPARE IT."
THOUGH HE WAS DRUNK WHEN HE SAID IT...
KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
WELL~~ IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY A FRIEND, BUT...
FUGUUUUU!?
WHAT'S THAT "KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"
HEY, YOU'RE TAKING IT!?
WELL, WE ARE GRATEFUL...
BUT AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT, WE'RE A BIT HESITANT...
WOW, TRAPPED BY INTRODUC-TIONS!!
YES, WELL THEN...
BE HAPPY, OK?
もりの
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO BE OKAY!?

MOST MYSTERIOUS...
YEP.
MAN, MILL-CHAN AND HANA -CHAN HAVE A MYSTERIOUS CONNECTION WITH AKI.

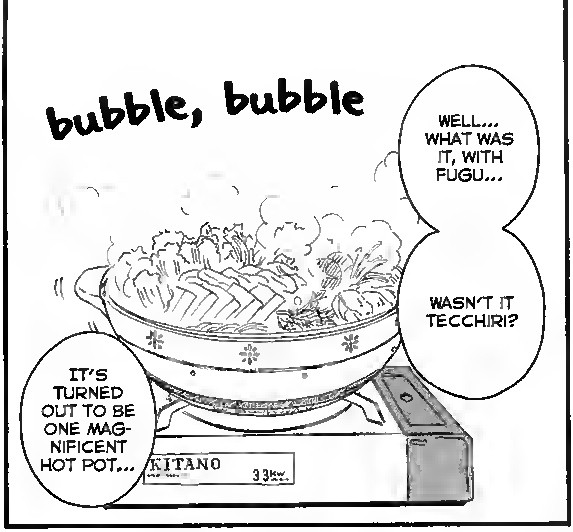
SO THAT'S WHY YOU ARE GOING OUT WITH THE PRESIDENT, EH?
IT IS.
EH, ME!? I MEAN...
"IT IS"!!

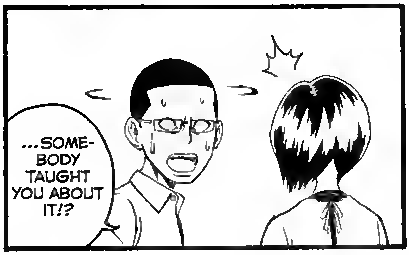
HOW IS IT?
WELLLL, HOW'S IT GOING?
SCENE 15
SPECIAL FOR YOU!!

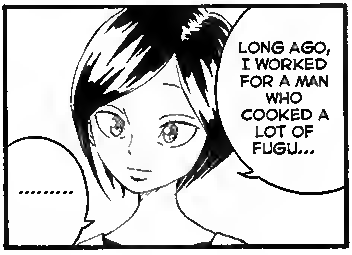

SFX: CHOMP
OH.
OH.
FUGU ARE FUGU...
*An image
IT SEEMS HE WAS LICENSED, AND YET...
HOW... HOWEVER...
IT'S OKAY. THE LIVER AND OTHER DANGEROUS PARTS WERE TAKEN OUT.
HOO...
I'M... ALL... RIGHT!!
.....
.....
.....

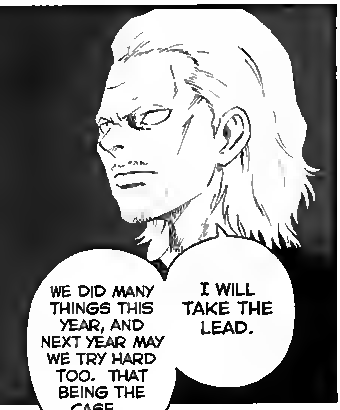
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

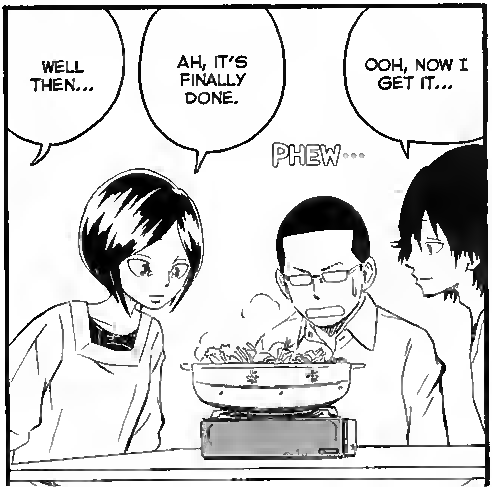
MILL-CHAN, YOU SAID THE DANGEROUS PARTS WERE GONE. ARE YOU SURE?
UUHH...


bubble, bubble
WELL... WHAT WAS IT, WITH FUGU...
WASN'T IT TECCHIRI?
IT'S TURNED OUT TO BE ONE MAGNIFICENT HOT POT...
KITANO


...SOMEBODY TAUGHT YOU ABOUT IT!?

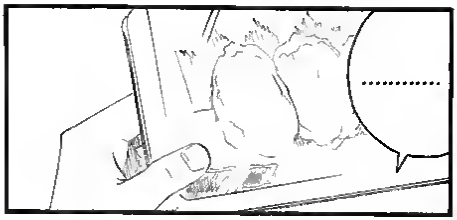

.....
LONG AGO, I WORKED FOR A MAN WHO COOKED A LOT OF FUGU...

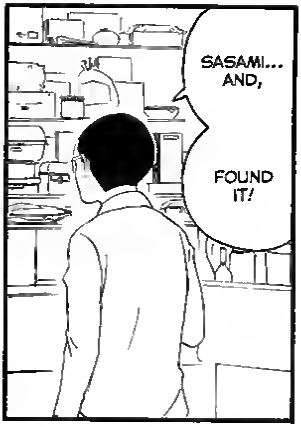

WE DID MANY THINGS THIS YEAR, AND NEXT YEAR MAY WE TRY HARD TOO. THAT BEING THE CASE...
I WILL TAKE THE LEAD.

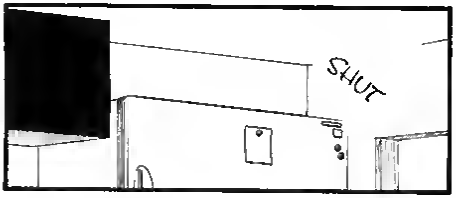

WELL THEN...
AH, IT'S FINALLY DONE.
OOH, NOW I GET IT...
PHEW...

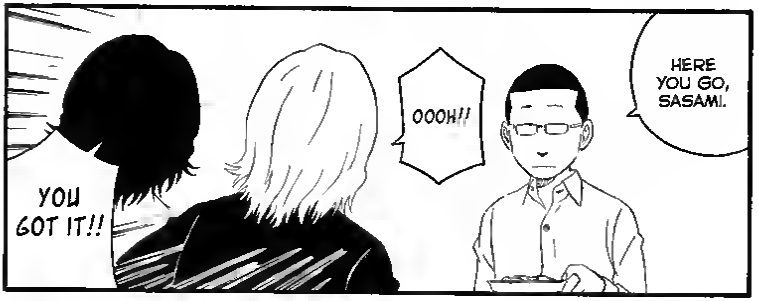
SFX. CRASH
パアーン
Good Work
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
THIS YEAR WAS A MERRY ONE AND WE DID WELL!!
Wahahaha
ALL OF IT...
YOU WERE RIGHT BELOW IT...
I'M GLAD, I'M GLAD.
WELL. MAY IT BE GOOD
.....
?
OH, AKI-CHAN!
WASN'T A VERY BAD MANAGER FOR THE HOT POT...
THIS STUFF TASTES GOOD~~ HOW DO YOU MAKE IT?
OH, THE FUGU IS DELICIOUS!!
First you take dried bonito...
NOT UNEXPECTEDLY,
THAT REMINDS ME MILL,

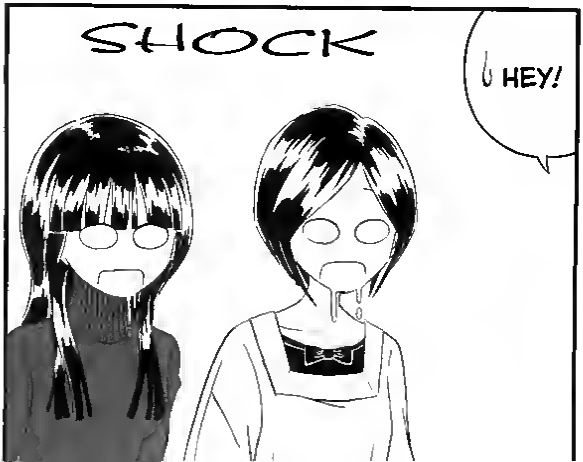
JUST EAT IT!!
JAM
UH!?
YOU CAN'T! EAT MORE VEGETA-BLES!!
HERE, SOME SHUNGIKU TOO!!
HEY, I DON'T LIKE...
NOOOO.. I CAN'T HANDLE SHIITAKE..
IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR BODY!!
PRESIDENT, SHIITAKE!!
LOOK HERE, HANA-CHAN, VEGETA-BLES!!
IT WAS ARRANGED ELEGANTLY
OF COURSE THERE WAS SHUNGIKU..
AKI~ ~SNACKS~... DID YOU BUY SASAMI?
YEAH, YEAH...
SHALL WE GET TO THE DRINK-ING?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
PART ONE DONE...


.....

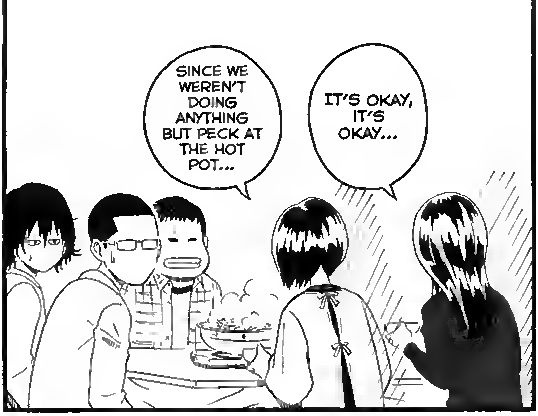

SASAMI... AND,
FOUND IT!

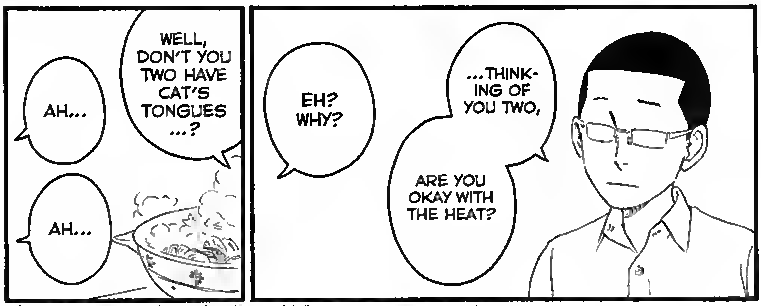

SHUT


HERE YOU GO, SASAMI.
OOOH!!
YOU GOT IT!!

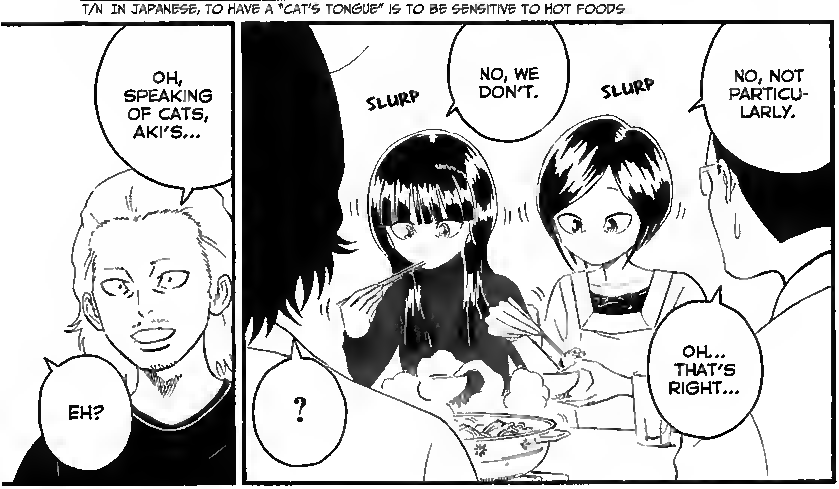

SHOCK
HEY!

AND... ALREADY GONE.
OOH, SO GOOD!!
HMM... IT DIED A QUICK DEATH, EH.?


SINCE WE WEREN'T DOING ANYTHING BUT PECK AT THE HOT POT...
IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY...
SORRY... SINCE YOU TWO WEREN'T DRINKING...
YOU... YOU WANTED TO HAVE SOME?
IT'S OKAY...
YES...



T/N: IN JAPANESE, TO HAVE A "CAT'S TONGUE" IS TO BE SENSITIVE TO HOT FOODS



I DON'T REMEMBER THEM ALL THAT WELL.
THOUGH I SAW A FEW PICTURES A WHILE AGO,
UH, YES...
YOU'RE KEEPING A CAT BACK HOME, AREN'T YOU?
CHOKE
WHAT WAS ITS NAME?
AHAHA-HA... ISN'T SHE CUTE!!
OOH... SHE SURE IS, SHE SURE IS...
EH, IS IT LIKE THAT?
HAVEN'T... HAVEN'T YOU GIVEN IT A NAME!?
ITS... NAME!?
OH? THAT'S GOOD.
YES, YES IT IS SHALL WE LOOK AT PICTURES!?
I HAVE AN ALBUM!!

WHAT!?
SHAME-LESS...
SHE'S BEEN REFERRED TO AS A BEAUTIFUL, REFRESHING CAT.
NEVER MIND.
YOU THINK SO?
YEAH~~ REALLY CUTE.
Haha
BUT, WELL, SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN...
A LITTLE BIT SCARY.
WELL, SHE LOVED TO PLAY, SHE WAS VERY CURIOUS,
AND SHE WAS FRIENDLY.
SO, WHAT WAS SHE LIKE?

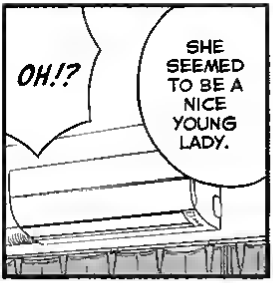
SEEING HER AFTER A LONG TIME...
OH, SPEAKING OF SEEING AFTER A LONG TIME,
EH?
WHEN YOU GO HOME NEXT TIME, YOU'D BETTER WATCH OUT.
HEY... WELL,
AH, AHHH... I SUPPOSE SO.
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HER IN A WHILE, RIGHT?
SHE JUST MIGHT HAVE FORGOTTEN YOU.
!?
WILL YOU SEE YOUR OLD GIRLFRIEND?
WHY? IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
RIGHT, MILL-CHA...
YOU DIDN'T NEED TO BRING THAT UP...
A GIRL-FRIEND !?
THERE WAS
EH!?
WELL, EXCUSE ME EVERY-BODY!!

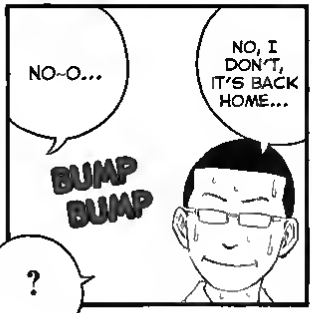
NO, NO,
WHA... WHAT? MILL-CHAN, SHE WAS PRETTY, WASN'T SHE?

DI--NG
N...?

Kyaaaa
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT.
THOUGH SHE SCRATCHED HER UP...

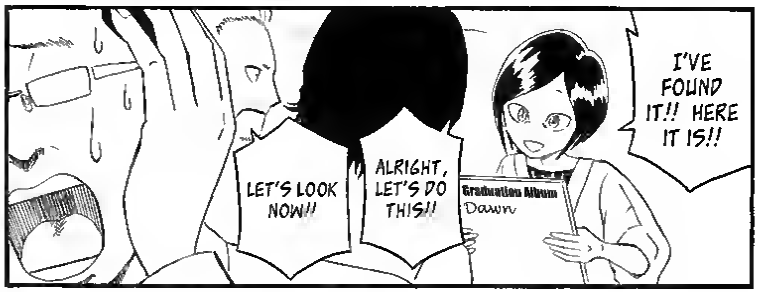
ALBUM... OH.
YOU DON'T HAVE AN ALBUM OF HER?
NO, NO SUCH THING...

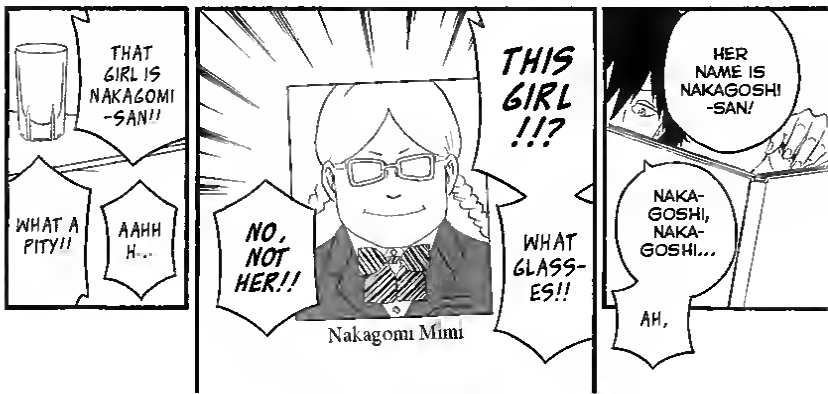

OH!?
SHE SEEMED TO BE A NICE YOUNG LADY.

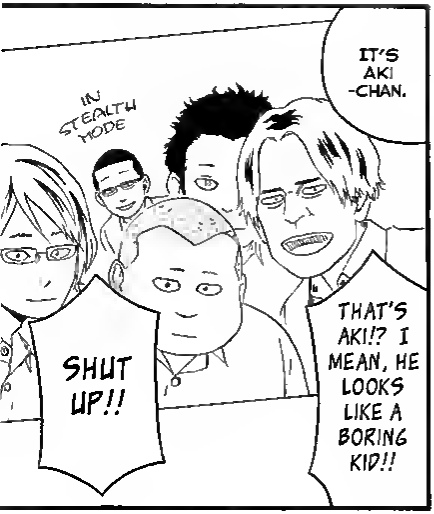

NO-O...
NO, I DON'T, IT'S BACK HOME...
BUMP BUMP
?

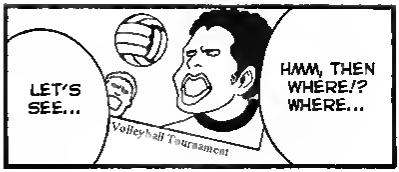
!!
DON'T YOU HAVE YOUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK?

WHA... WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
AH!!
GYAAA AAA!!
IT'S GOT TO BE IN THE CLOSET...

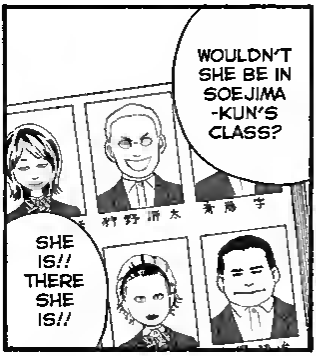

LET'S LOOK NOW!!
ALRIGHT, LET'S DO THIS!!
Graduation Album
Dawn
I'VE FOUND IT!! HERE IT IS!!

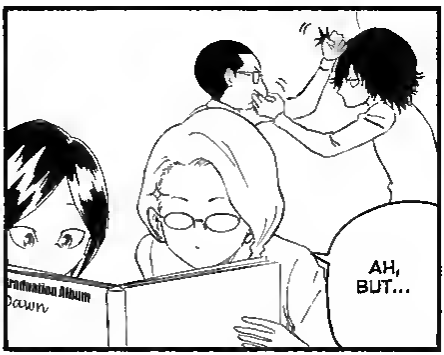

THAT GIRL IS NAKAGOMI -SAN!!
WHAT A PITY!!
AAHH H...
NO, NOT HER!!
THIS GIRL !!?
WHAT GLASS-ES!!
HER NAME IS NAKAGOSHI -SAN!
NAKA-GOSHI, NAKA-GOSHI...
AH,
Nakagomi Mimi


IT'S AKI -CHAN.
IN STEALTH MODE
SHUT UP!!
THAT'S AKI!? I MEAN, HE LOOKS LIKE A BORING KID!!


LET'S SEE...
Volleyball Tournament
HMM, THEN WHERE!? WHERE...

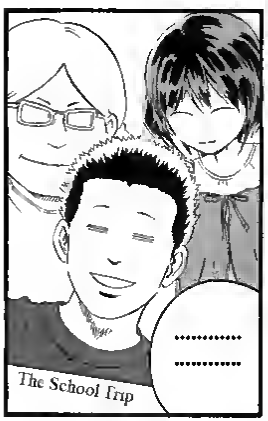
YOU FOUND HIM!?
AH, I FOUND HIM!!
Graduation Album
Dawn


WOULDN'T SHE BE IN SOEJIMA -KUN'S CLASS?
SHE IS!! THERE SHE IS!!


Graduation Album
Dawn
AH, BUT...

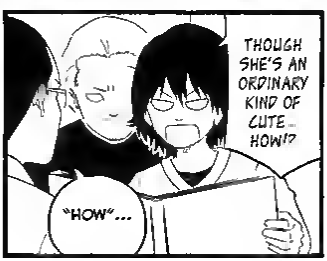
HERE SHE IS!!
WH, WHERE!?
Saga Mikan
FIV 573
AH, IT'S THIS PERSON!!

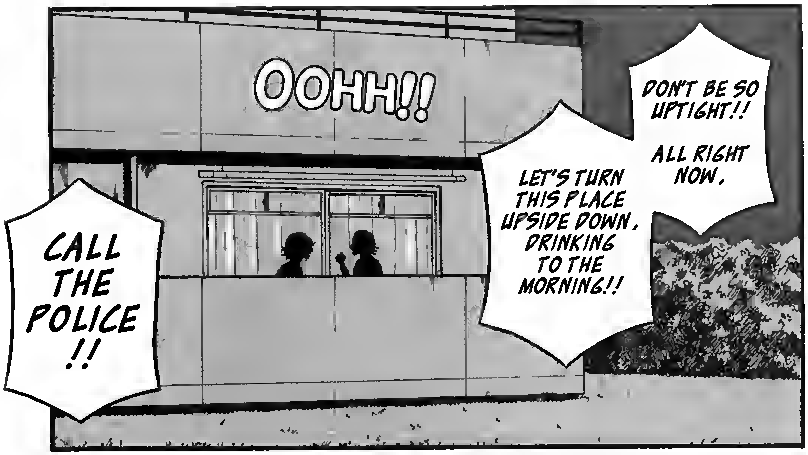
NO, NO...
Nakagoshi Aya

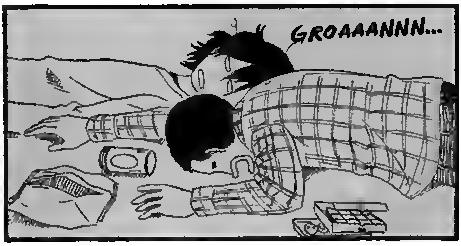

.....
.....
The School Trip

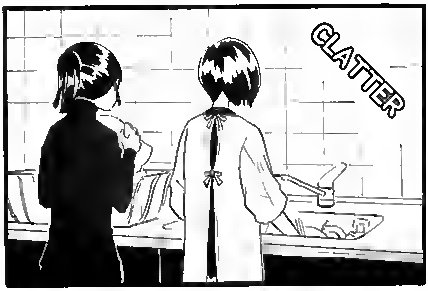
EH...?

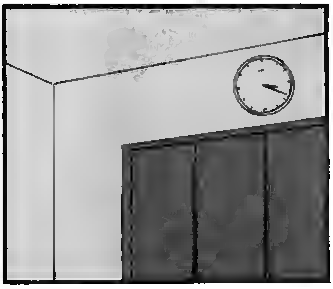
I DON'T GET IT!!
HOW THIS GIRL WITH THIS BORING GUY..
EVEN IF HONESTLY, YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR!!


THOUGH SHE'S AN ORDINARY KIND OF CUTE... HOW!?
"HOW"...


OOHH!!
DON'T BE SO UPTIGHT!!
ALL RIGHT NOW,
LET'S TURN THIS PLACE UPSIDE DOWN, DRINKING TO THE MORNING!!
CALL THE POLICE !!


GROAAANNN...

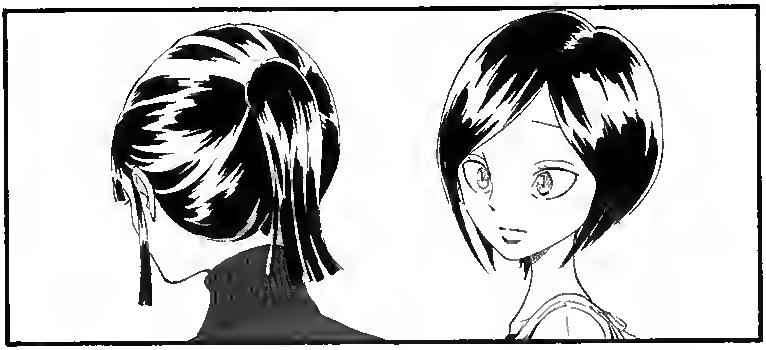

CLATTER

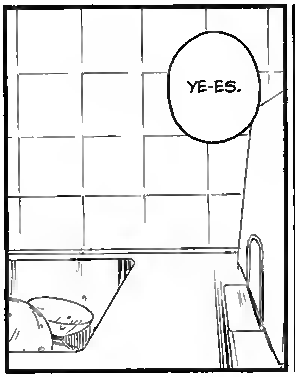


WE GET TO HELP OUR GUESTS ...
AREN'T YOU TIRED?
THIS IS BORING.
NO, NO.
WHISH
.....
THAT SO...?
ZZZ...
NO... IT WAS FUN.
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE MADE SO MUCH NOISE WITH EVERYBODY LIKE THIS...
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
EVEN TODAY... I WONDER WHEN IT WILL BECOME MEMORIES...
ERR...
HM?

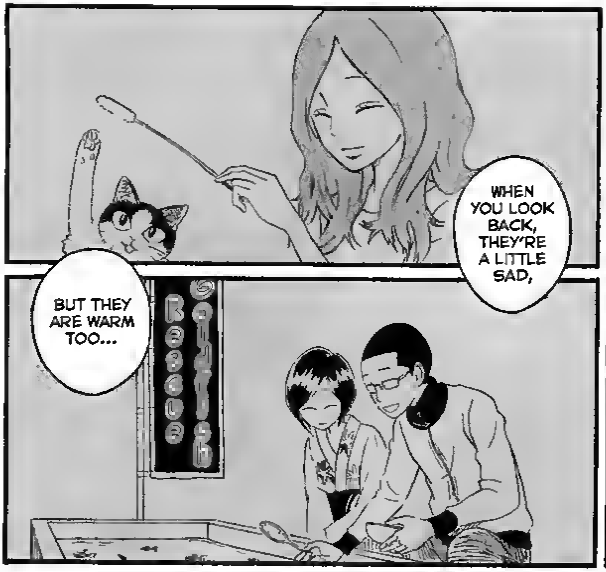
THEY ARE...
BETTER THAN NOTH-ING...

WELL... THOUGH THEY ONLY BE MEMO-RIES,
EVEN SO, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE OKAY...
MY ALBUM 72
Graduation
Dawn




YE-ES.

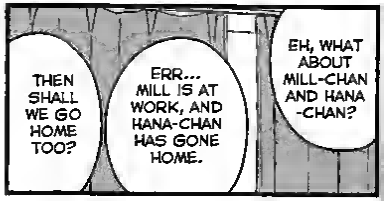
I'M SORRY, I SAID SOMETHING STRANGE.
.....


WHEN YOU LOOK BACK, THEY'RE A LITTLE SAD,
BUT THEY ARE WARM TOO...
THAT MAY BE SO.
CERTAINLY, MEMORIES,
?
COME TO THINK OF IT, A BIT AGO, AKI-CHAN SAID IT TOO.
WORRYING ONLY ABOUT THINGS YOU'VE LOST,
YOU DON'T HAVE FUN IN THE HERE AND NOW...
THAT I WAS SCARY.
IT MIGHT BE THAT KIND OF THING.

WITH AKI-CHAN,
WITH THE CLUB MEMBERS,
BEING ABLE TO TALK WITH YOU LIKE THIS,
EVEN THOUGH ALREADY I AM PLENTY HAPPY...
WITH JUST BEING ABLE TO MEET THEM,
CLATTER

GOOD MORNING, A~~KI~~...
...HM?
WHAT'S THIS IN THE FUTON...?

WE DRANK TOO MUCH...
...SO I'M TIRED.

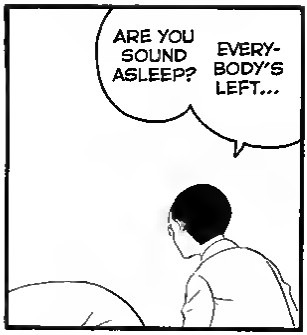

THEN SHALL WE GO HOME TOO?
ERR... MILL IS AT WORK, AND HANA-CHAN HAS GONE HOME.
EH, WHAT ABOUT MILL-CHAN AND HANA-CHAN?

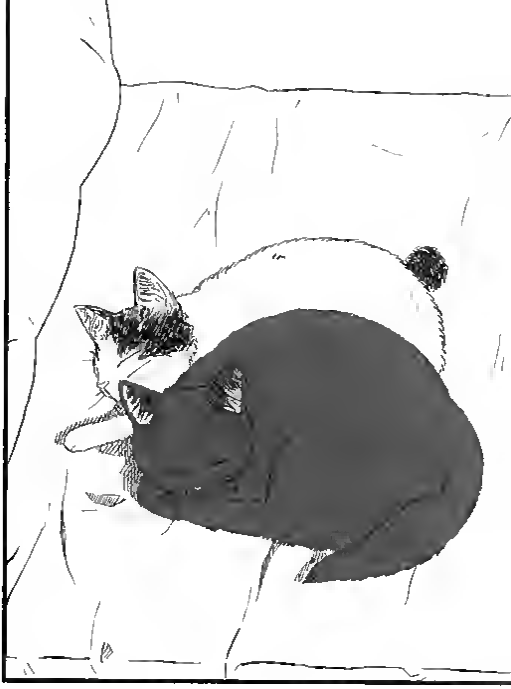
OOH... MY HEAD IS GOING TO SPLIT...
WHA, WHAT, THIS IS NOTHING...
SCARY!!

...SO DOES YOURS.
YOUR HEAD LOOKS TERRIBLE.

YOU GUYS MIGHT PREFER MY HAIR-STYLE.
WHAT!? I'M TOLD THIS IS AN ELEGANT LION'S MANE...
NO WAY, I REFUSE!!
MINE IS THE YOKOHAMA BOMBER'S HAIR.

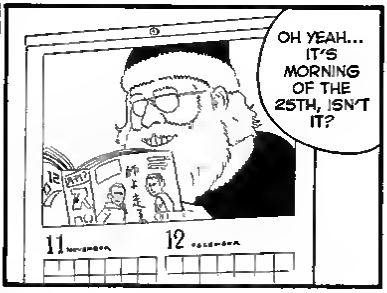
DON'T WORRY, IT'S TO BE EXPECTED.
PARDON THE MESS, UNTIL IT'S CLEANED...
WE'LL COME BACK AFTER IT'S ALL CLEANED UP.
WELL THEN, I'LL TAKE OUT THE TRASH
WELL THEN,
YES. THAT WAS WELL DONE.
THEN, GIVE OUR REGARDS TO MILL-CHAN.
OH, YOU'RE SANTA...
THIS MORNING IT'S PRETTY COLD, SO A HAT... LIKE SO.
CLICK
.....
NO WAY, I'M A HUNG-OVER SANTA...
...HEE ---YYY.


ARE YOU SOUND ASLEEP?
EVERY-BODY'S LEFT...



AH.
WELL ...

IT'S JUST A LITTLE, BUT,
Sashimi
IT WAS A GOOD THING I SET IT ASIDE.


OH YEAH... IT'S MORNING OF THE 25TH, ISN'T IT?
11
12

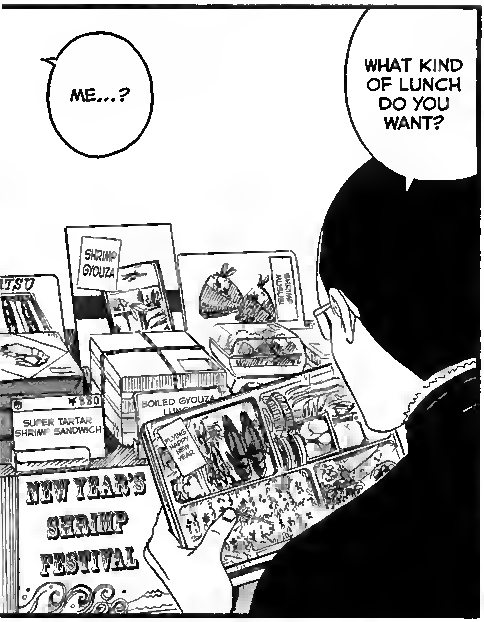
SNICK

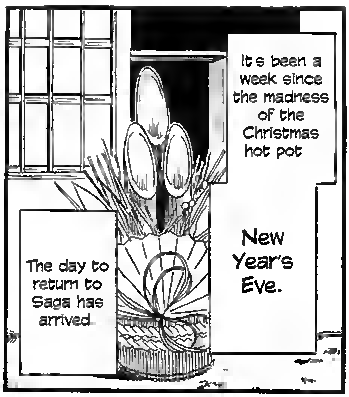
THIS ISN'T JUST YOUR ORDINARY CAT FOOD...
IT'S SPECIAL FOR YOU!!
CLICK
AH, OH YEAH.

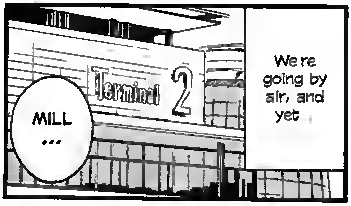
YES, A GOOD SHOT.
CLICK
ONE DAY, THIS TOO
WILL BE A GOOD MEMORY.
MY ALBUM 72

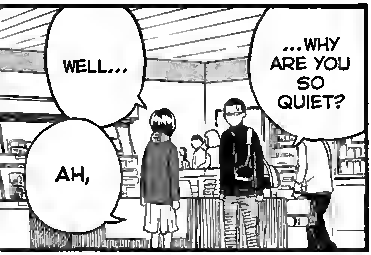
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

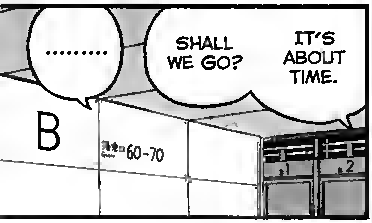
MILL


WHAT KIND OF LUNCH DO YOU WANT?
ME...?
SHRIMP GYOUZA
SUPER TARTAR SHRIMP SANDWICH
BOILED GYOUZA
NEW YEAR'S SHRIMP FESTIVAL

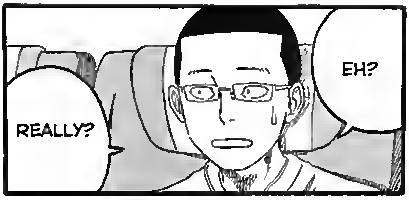

It's been a week since the madness of the Christmas hot pot
New Year's Eve.
The day to return to Saga has arrived.

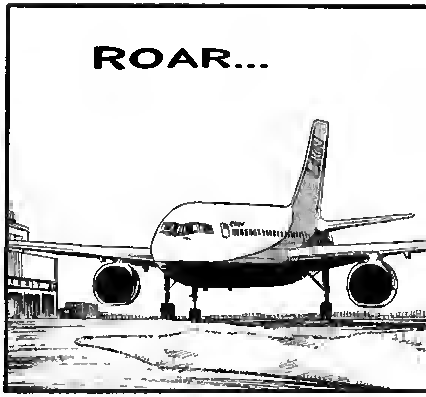

Terminal 2
MILL ...
We're going by air, and yet

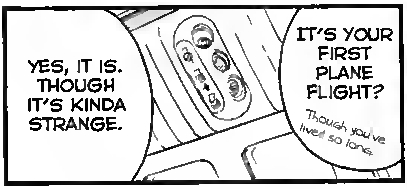

WELL...
...WHY ARE YOU SO QUIET?
AH,

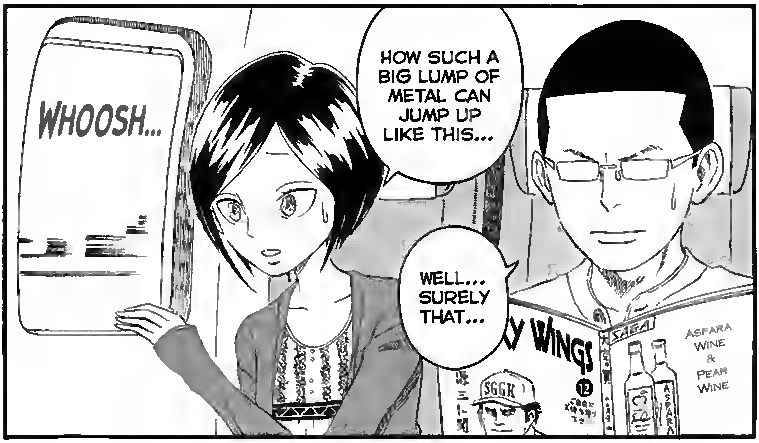

.....
SHALL WE GO?
IT'S ABOUT TIME.
B
60-70

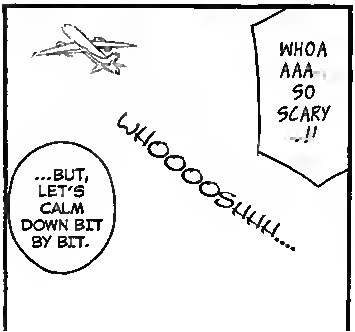
ANY-THING'S FINE.
Mill's been acting strange.

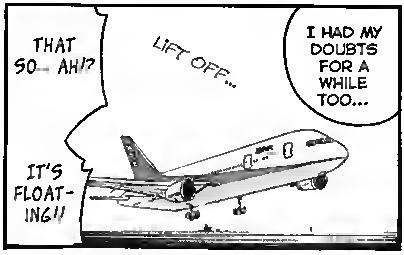

EH?
REALLY?

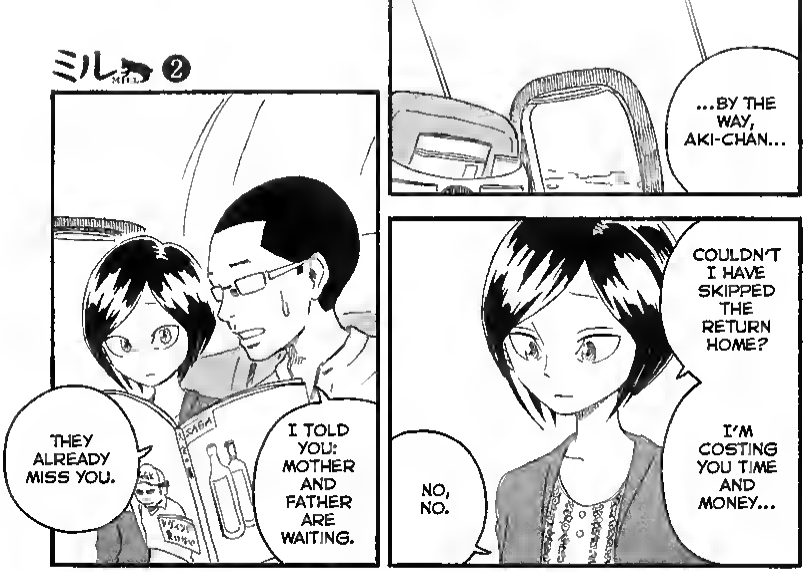

ROAR...

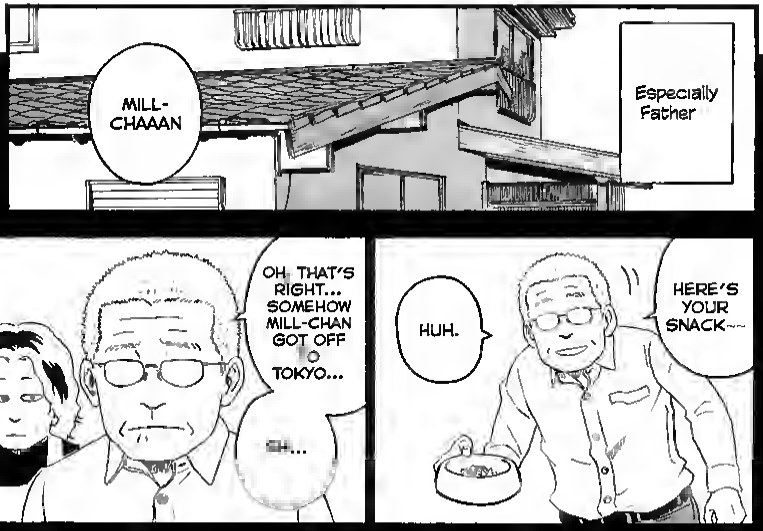

IT'S YOUR FIRST PLANE FLIGHT?
Though you've lived so long.
YES, IT IS. THOUGH IT'S KINDA STRANGE.


WHOOSH...
HOW SUCH A BIG LUMP OF METAL CAN JUMP UP LIKE THIS...
WELL... SURELY THAT...
ASFARA WINE & PEAR WINE


WHOA AAA SO SCARY..!!
WHOOOOSHHH...
...BUT, LET'S CALM DOWN BIT BY BIT.


THAT SO... AH!?
LIFT OFF...
I HAD MY DOUBTS FOR A WHILE TOO...
IT'S FLOAT-ING!!


...BY THE WAY, AKI-CHAN...
COULDN'T I HAVE SKIPPED THE RETURN HOME?
I'M COSTING YOU TIME AND MONEY...
NO, NO.
I TOLD YOU: MOTHER AND FATHER ARE WAITING.
THEY ALREADY MISS YOU.


MILL-CHAAAN
Especially Father
OH, THAT'S RIGHT... SOMEHOW MILL-CHAN GOT OFF TO TOKYO...
SH...
HUH.
HERE'S YOUR SNACK~~

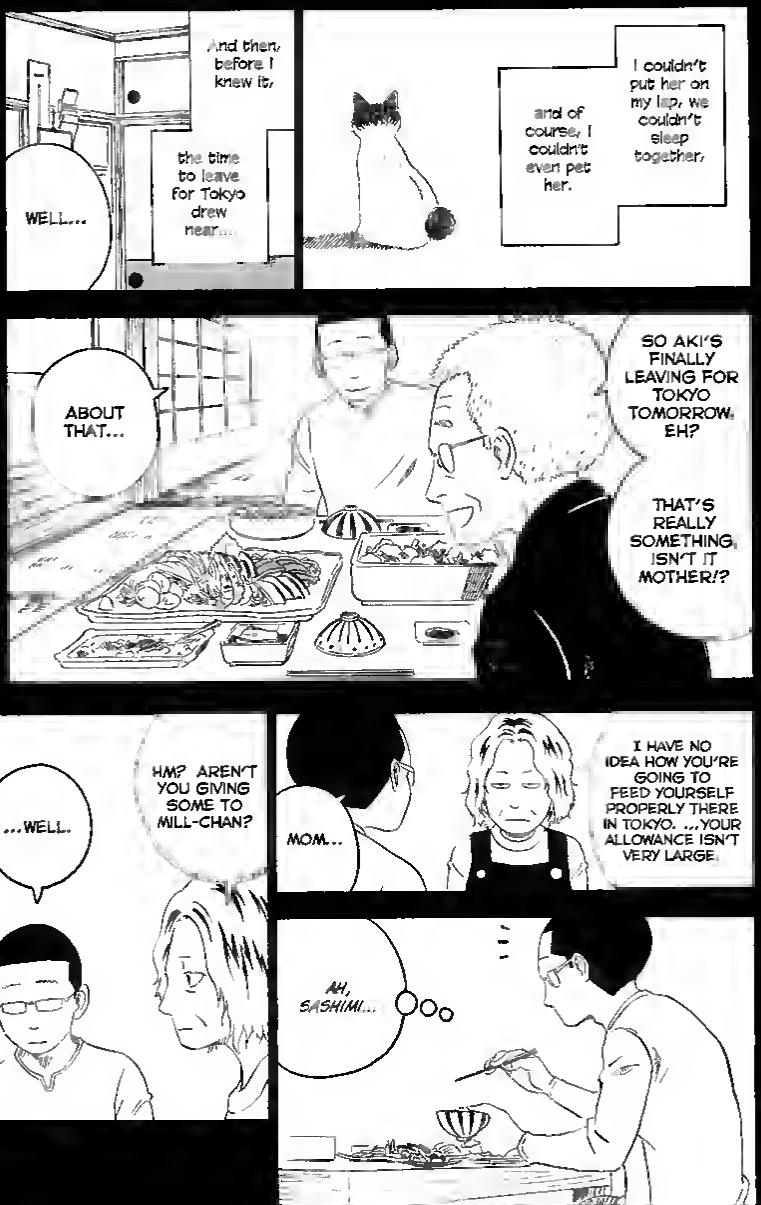
YEAH... HE'S LIKE THAT, SO MAKE SURE TO BRING MILL-CHAN BACK WITH YOU.
YOUR FATHER WILL PAY THE PLANE FARE.
IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
NO WAY...
JUST ENJOY THE FLIGHT.
I would have been quiet
BUT, WASN'T THAT ONLY YOUR PORTION OF THE PLANE FARE?
AND OF COURSE, I WOULD HAVE PAID MY OWN FARE.
THE HOLD WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE WITH ME...
AKI -CHAN, LOOK LOOK!!
THAT BRIDGE IS SO SMALL!!
SHE SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING HERSELF PLENTY
CHOMP CHOMP
Toriwappa? *
OH!!
I DON'T ENJOY FLYING...
AH, BUT THIS... SKY LUNCH? IT'S DELICIOUS.

* A CHICKEN AND RICE DISH TYPICAL OF SAGA

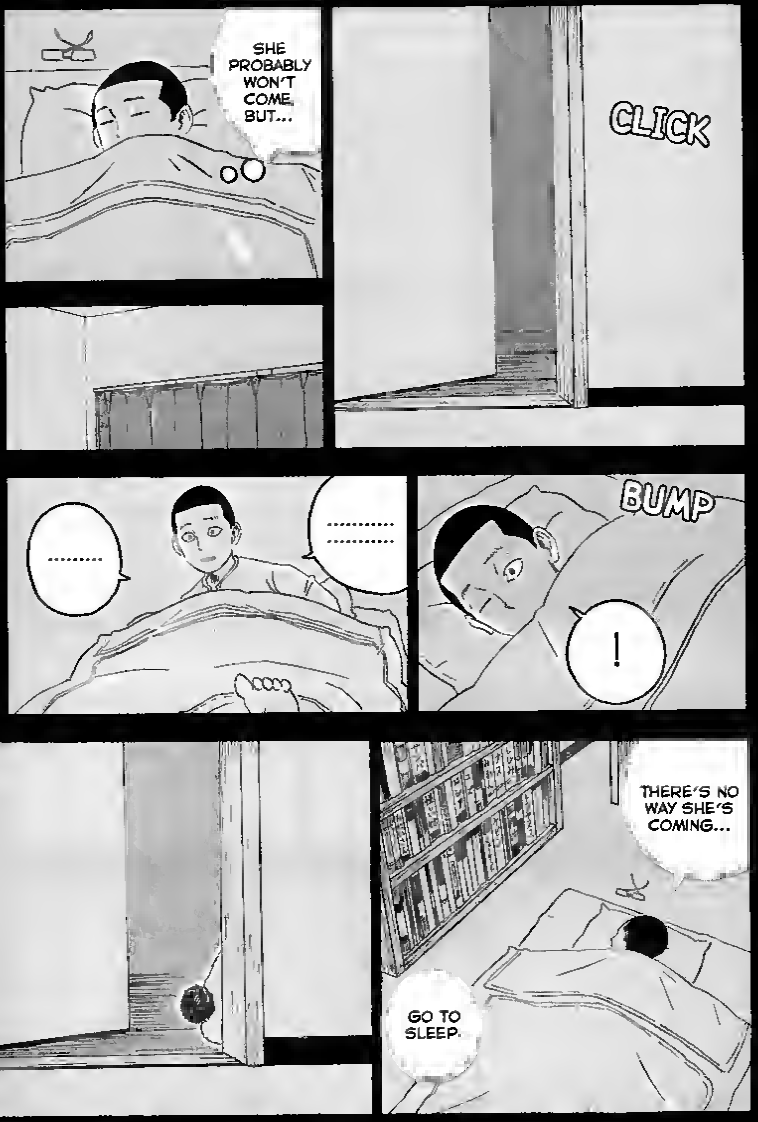
SAGA AIRPORT
AT LAST, WE'VE ARRIVED AT SAGA.
AND NOW, THE BUS.
SAGA AIRPORT
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN HOME.
BE THAT AS IT MAY,
THE WAY THEY TALK TAKES ME BACK...
Yes but be my guest!
This seat taken?
AAAH...
GETTING TO COME HOME WITH MIL...
AT THE TIME I LEFT FOR TOKYO, I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS A BAKENEKO,
AND WE HAD BEEN TOGETHER A LONG TIME...

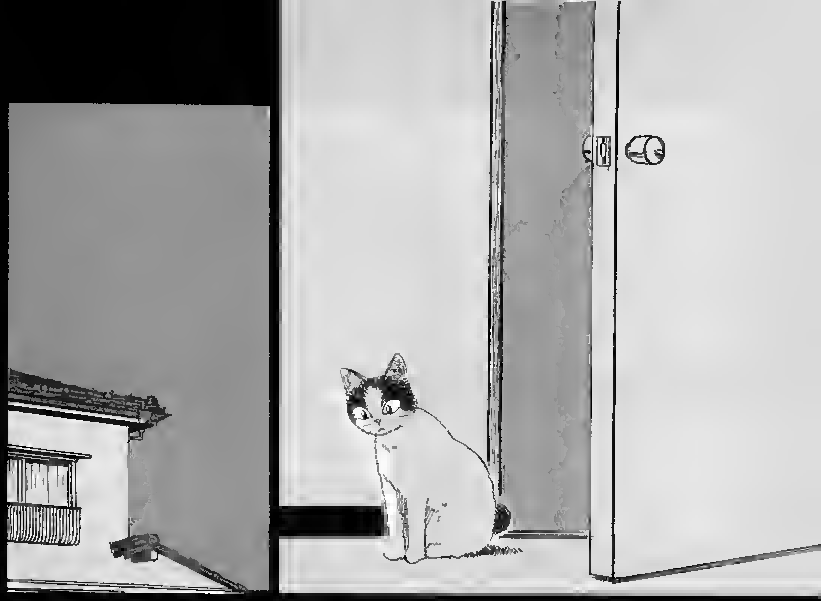
T/N: APART FROM THE "SEAT" AND "YES", THE TWO LADIES' SPEECH IS INDECIPHERABLE, THEIR ACCENTS ARE SO THICK... BUT I DON'T DARE MAKE THEM TALK LIKE SOMEBODY FROM WAY OUT IN THE STICKS. IT'S NOT LIKE THEY WERE SPEAKING KANSAI DIALECT...

HAVE YOU NOT SEEN MILL?
I HAVE NO IDEA.
I thought I could just disappear
HEEY, MILL...
MI...
OH, THERE SHE IS.
Since I was accepted into college,
and had decided to live alone in Tokyo
It seemed like Mil was avoiding me.
.....

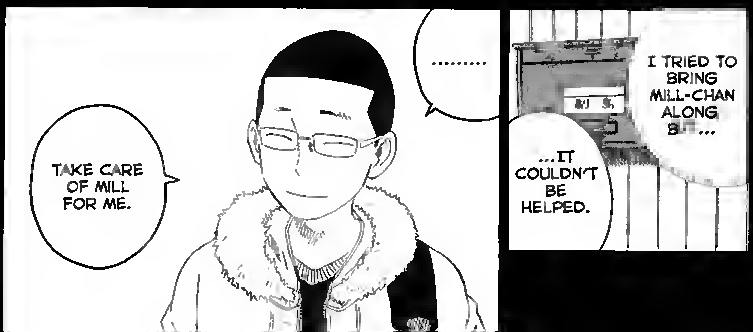

And then, before I knew it,
the time to leave for Tokyo drew near...
WELL...
I couldn't put her on my lap, we couldn't sleep together,
and of course, I couldn't even pet her.
SO AKI'S FINALLY LEAVING FOR TOKYO TOMORROW, EH?
THAT'S REALLY SOMETHING, ISN'T IT MOTHER!?
ABOUT THAT...
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU'RE GOING TO FEED YOURSELF PROPERLY THERE IN TOKYO. ...YOUR ALLOWANCE ISN'T VERY LARGE.
MOM...
HM? AREN'T YOU GIVING SOME TO MILL-CHAN?
...WELL.
AH, SASHIMI...

.....
Ha Ha Ha
Where is she?
MILL -CHAAAAN!!
CUT IT OUT. EVEN IF I GIVE HER SOME SHE PROBABLY WON'T EAT...
THAT SO!? THEN HOW ABOUT ME!?
CLICK
I'M GOING TO BED EARLY
WELL... TO BE READY FOR TO-MORROW.
.....
CLOSE


SHE PROBABLY WON'T COME, BUT...
CLICK
.....
.....
.....
BUMP
!
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S COMING...
GO TO SLEEP.



WE'RE GOING AS FAR AS THE BUS STOP.
YOU DON'T NEED TO SEE ME OFF.
IS IT FINALLY TIME TO GO?
YEP.

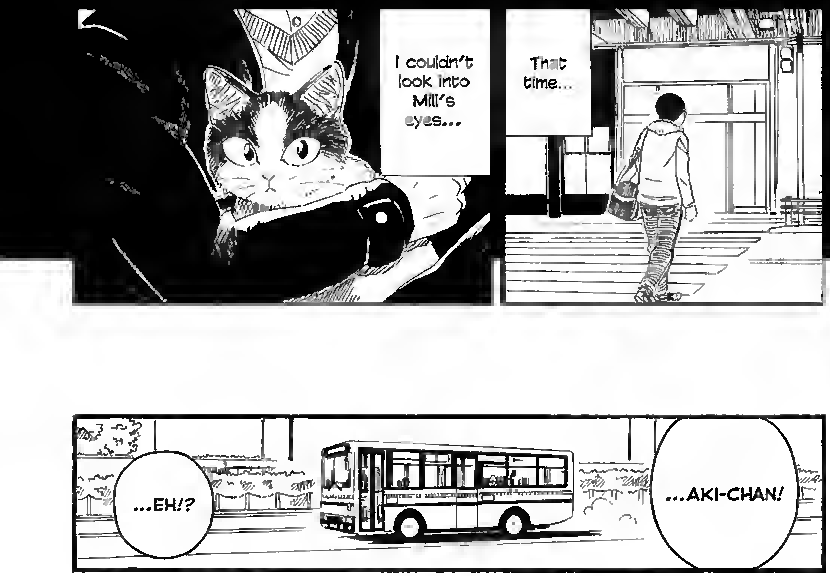

TAKE CARE OF MILL FOR ME.
.....
I TRIED TO BRING MILL-CHAN ALONG B...
...IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.

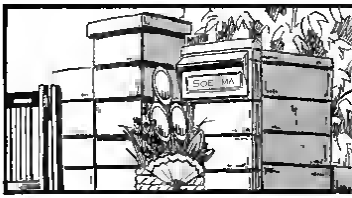
OH, HERE IT IS. WELL THEN...
STUDY HARD!
ROAR...
YES...
DO YOUR BEST!
WELL THEN, COME NEW YEARS ...
WASTE NOT, WANT NOT, RIGHT?
AS FOR MONEY...
OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME BACK OVER SUMMER VACATION.
.....HM?
.....
.....
VROOOM...

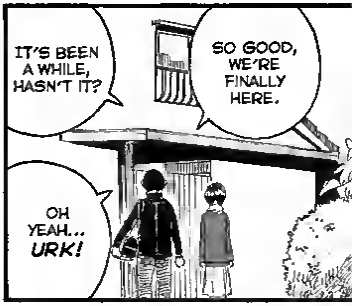
EEEEE EEEH!?
DOEEE EEEEH !?
EH...?
.....
.....
WHA... WHAT'S WRONG!?
RUSTLE
AH, NO... IT'S NOTHING...
IT'S JUST VOICE TRAINING...
HO, HOW? WHEN DID SHE GET ON!?
AN, ANYHOW
WE'RE GETTING OFF AT THE NEXT BUS STOP...
UNLESS WE...
.....
.....

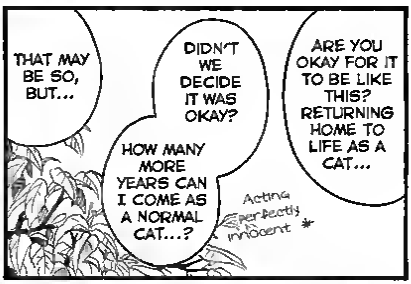
HASN'T IT...
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ON MY LAP...
...NO, A LITTLE LONGER ...
SHALL WE GO TO THE NEXT STOP?

AKI, SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
NO PROBLEM ...
SAGA STATION BUS CENTER
Suuuuu...
EXIT
GRAB
UU.../?
AH. YOU CAN LEAVE MILL -CHAN TO ME.
WELL THEN I'LL BE GOING
JR佐賀駅
JR Saga Sta
JR九州旅行支店
Travel Agency
.....


I couldn't look into Mill's eyes...
That time...
...EH!?
...AKI-CHAN!
...NO,
NEVER MIND.
OH, OOH.
MILL, HEY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
.....
HUH?

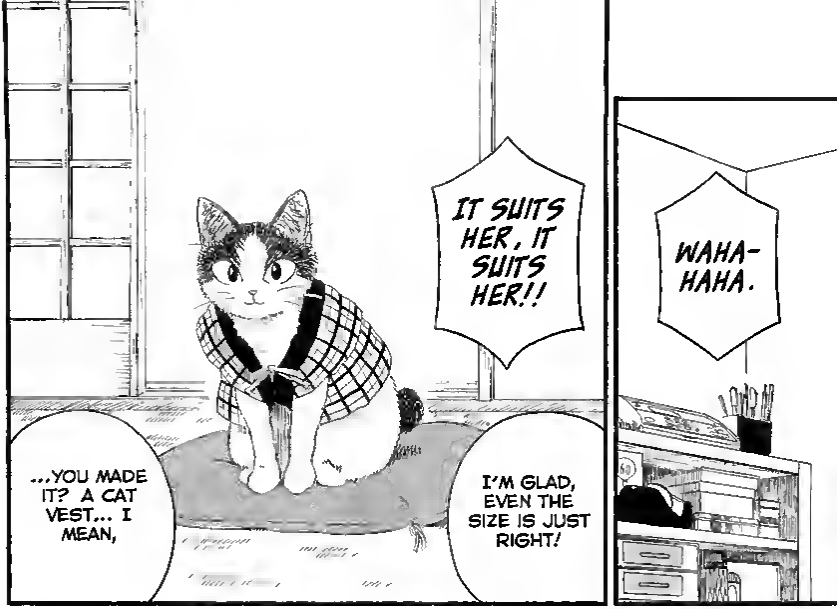


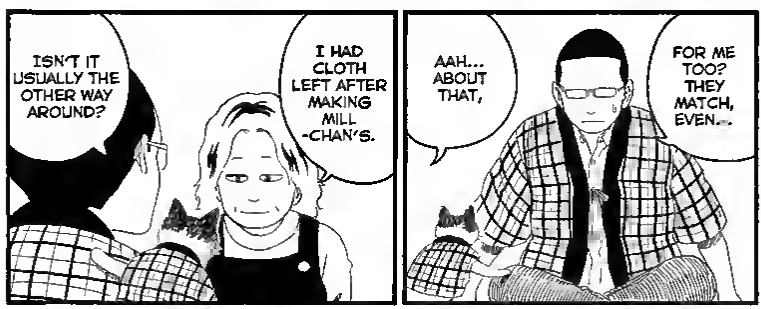


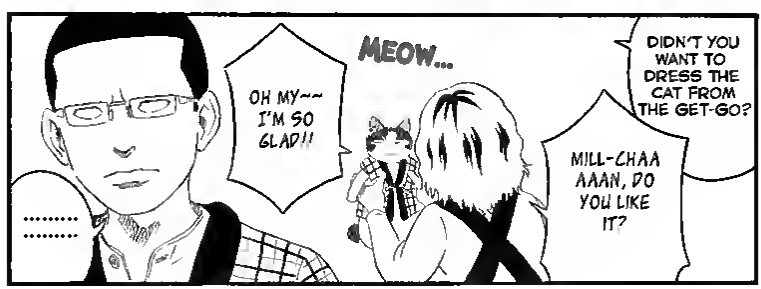

THAT MAY BE SO, BUT...
DIDN'T WE DECIDE IT WAS OKAY?
HOW MANY MORE YEARS CAN I COME AS A NORMAL CAT...?
ARE YOU OKAY FOR IT TO BE LIKE THIS? RETURNING HOME TO LIFE AS A CAT...
Acting perfectly innocent *

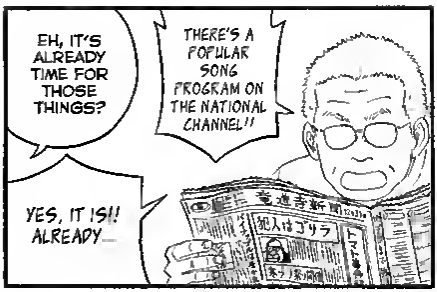
* IN JAPANESE, THE EXPRESSION "WEARING A CAT MASK" MEANS SOMETHING LIKE "PLAYING INNOCENT"

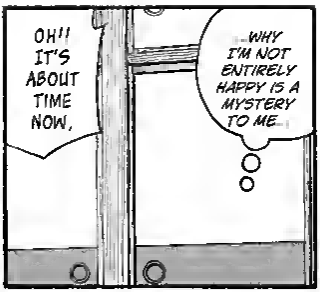
I'M HOME...
OH.
SLIDE
WELL THEN, I'LL COME BACK AS A CAT,
AND HANG AROUND THE KITCHEN.
I GET IT, I GET IT!
Polishing my teeth
WELCOME HOME!!
WE'VE MISSED YOU!!
WELL...
STAMPEDE
OOH! YOU'VE COME HOME,
YOU'RE HERE!!
MILL-CHAA AANN!!
WE'VE WANTED TO SEE YOU!!
.....
.....
Meow
OH, AKI... WELCOME HOME.
YEAH...
I'M BACK...

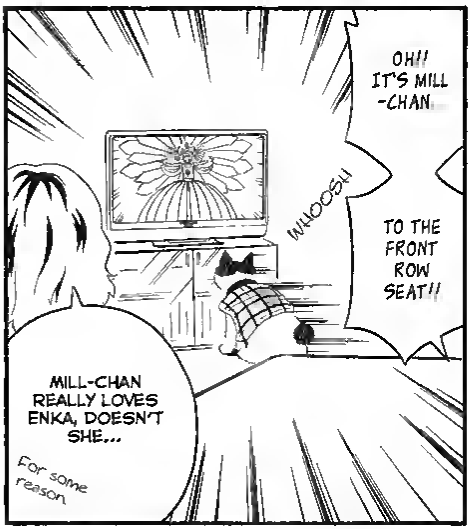

IT SUITS HER, IT SUITS HER!!
WAHA-HAHA.
...YOU MADE IT? A CAT VEST... I MEAN,
I'M GLAD, EVEN THE SIZE IS JUST RIGHT!

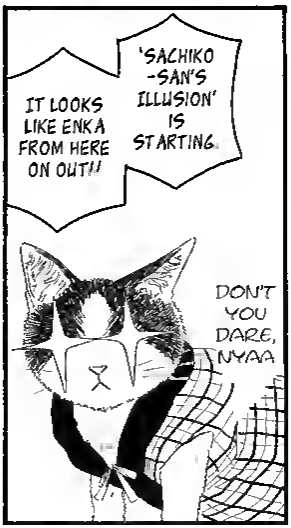

ISN'T IT USUALLY THE OTHER WAY AROUND?
I HAD CLOTH LEFT AFTER MAKING MILL-CHAN'S.
AAH... ABOUT THAT,
FOR ME TOO? THEY MATCH, EVEN...


MEOW...
OH MY~~ I'M SO GLAD!!
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO DRESS THE CAT FROM THE GET-GO?
MILL-CHAAAAAN, DO YOU LIKE IT?
.....
.....

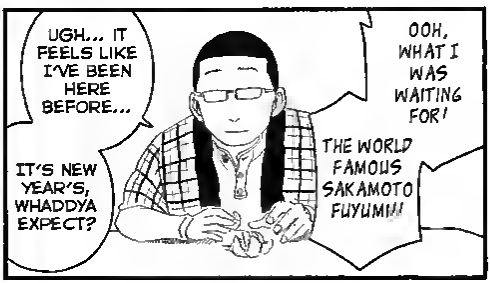

EH, IT'S ALREADY TIME FOR THOSE THINGS?
THERE'S A POPULAR SONG PROGRAM ON THE NATIONAL CHANNEL!!
YES, IT IS!! ALREADY...


OH!! IT'S ABOUT TIME NOW,
...WHY I'M NOT ENTIRELY HAPPY IS A MYSTERY TO ME...

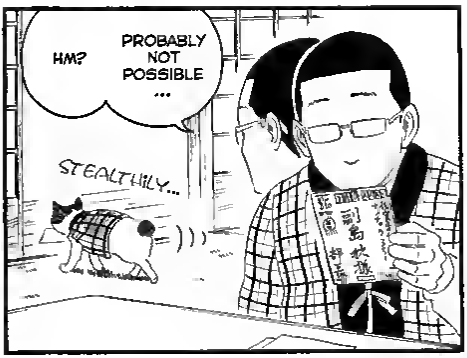

OH!! IT'S MILL-CHAN...
WHOOSH
TO THE FRONT ROW SEAT!!
MILL-CHAN REALLY LOVES ENKA, DOESN'T SHE...
For some reason

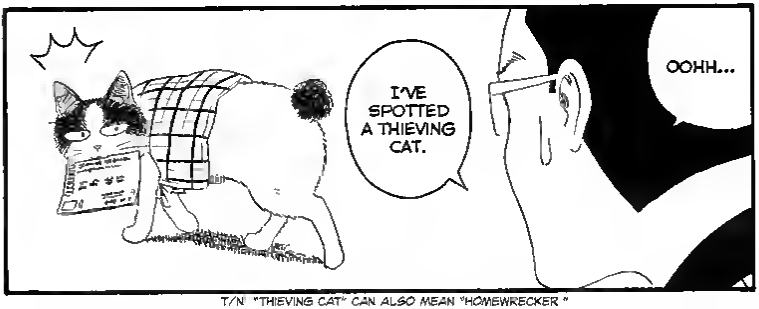

'SACHIKO-SAN'S ILLUSION' IS STARTING...
IT LOOKS LIKE ENKA FROM HERE ON OUT!!
DON'T YOU DARE, NYAA

DING, DONG...

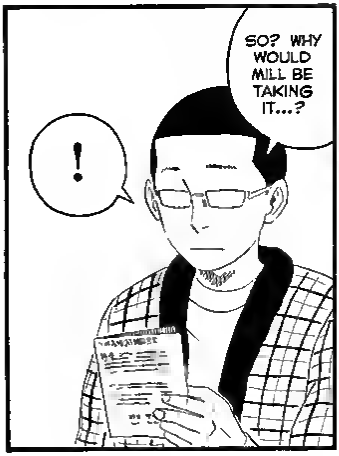

UGH... IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE...
IT'S NEW YEAR'S, WHADDYA EXPECT?
OOH, WHAT I WAS WAITING FOR!
THE WORLD FAMOUS SAKAMOTO FUYUMI!!

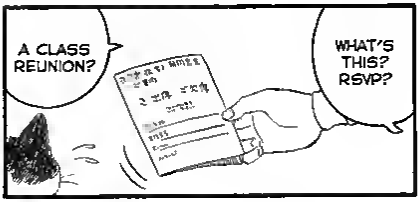
It's a live broad-cast
It's New Year's.
IT'S THE SAME OLD SAME OLD TOO.
OF COURSE ON THE TELE-VISION
IT'S ALREADY THE NEW YEAR,
AND I'M SLEEPY.
SAME OLD, SAME OLD...
AH... FALLING ASLEEP UNDER THE KOTATSU...
SIZZLE...
CARDS TO ME HERE AT THE HOUSE.
OH!! EVERY-BODY SENT
CONGRAT-ULATIONS, I THINK.
HEY, YOU'VE GOT NEW YEAR'S CARDS.
YES... MORNING.
OH, AKI, YOU WOKE UP?
STRETTTTCH
THE CLUB PRESI-DENT... WHAT'S THIS?
もりの
ARE HEAVY...
...BUT, ALL OF THEM,
HANA-CHAN, PLEASE!
I WILL ABSOLUTELY GET TO MEET PINK NOSE THIS YEAR.
HARUOMI

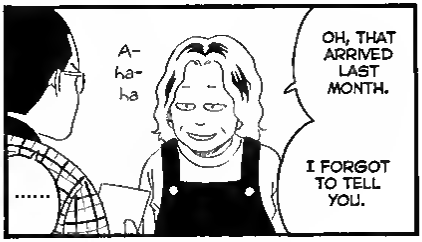




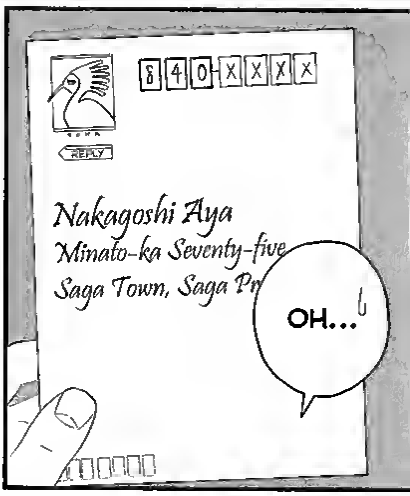
T/N "THIEVING CAT" CAN ALSO MEAN "HOMEWRECKER."

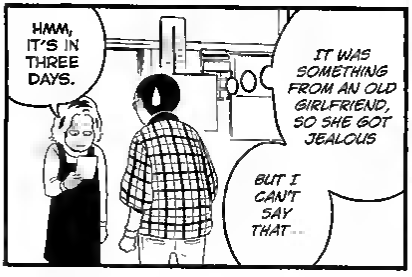


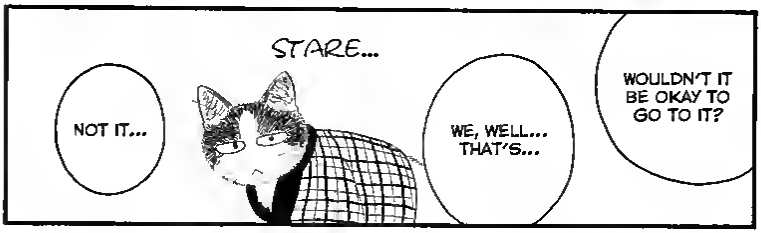


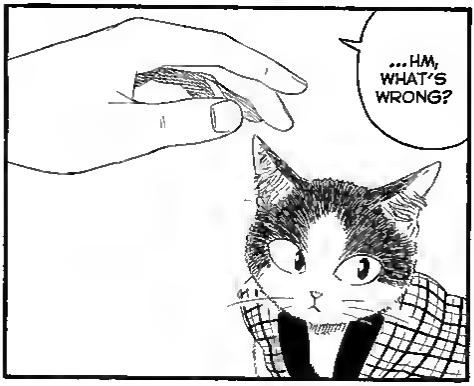


WHERE WAS MILL-CHAN GOING WITH IT?
THAT POSTCARD WAS SOMETHING
ABOUT A REUNION, WASN'T IT?


840-XXXX
REPLY
Nakagoshi Aya
Minato-ka Seventy-five
Saga Town, Saga Pr
OH...

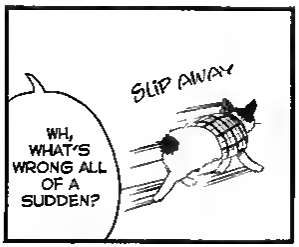

HMM, IT'S IN THREE DAYS.
IT WAS SOMETHING FROM AN OLD GIRLFRIEND, SO SHE GOT JEALOUS
BUT I CAN'T SAY THAT...

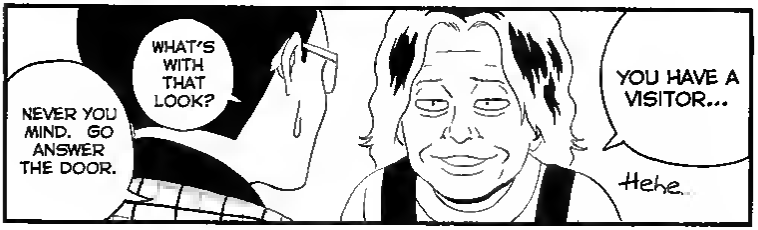

STARE...
NOT IT...
WE, WELL... THAT'S...
WOULDN'T IT BE OKAY TO GO TO IT?


...HM, WHAT'S WRONG?

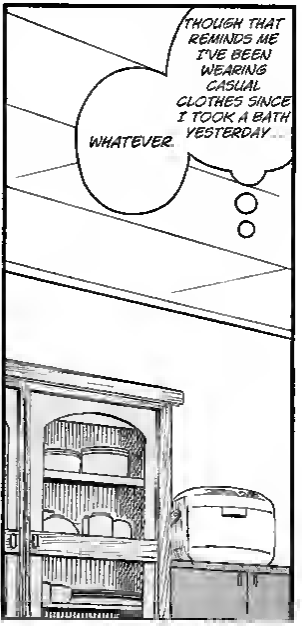
DING-DONG
HM? WHO'S THAT...
NOW, NOW... DON'T GLARE LIKE THAT.

AKII~~
?
I WONDER... IS IT THE LEFTOVER SMELL OF THE ORANGES I ATE YESTERDAY?


WH, WHAT'S WRONG ALL OF A SUDDEN?
SLIP AWAY


NEVER YOU MIND. GO ANSWER THE DOOR.
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?
YOU HAVE A VISITOR...
Hehe

Bedhead
Mochi
I WONDER WHO IT IS?
Kimono Vest
Sweats, upper and lower
Ratty Socks
RIGHT AFTER NEW YEAR'S...


THOUGH THAT REMINDS ME I'VE BEEN WEARING CASUAL CLOTHES SINCE I TOOK A BATH YESTERDAY...
WHATEVER.

End of Mili, Vol 2.

(WATCHING MILL)

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---A Gentle Digression---

WATCHING MILL IN HIGH PLACES

HEY, MILL~
TARDELLI
Mill is often found in high places.
AH, FOUND YOU.
COMPLETELY FLOPPED..
The refrigerator and the book shelf are her favorites.
Back home, she'd climb up on the roof, or up a tree
THAT CAT IS A CICADA ...
In high places, she gets to feel big.
She's looks strangely important.
THE SPHINX POSE
STRETCH
OH, ARE YOU COMING DOWN?
And yet, coming down is her weak point...
Uu- Uuu~
OOH, SHE FLEW!!
Eeep!

Meow
she seemed to have been a bit scared
whomp
QUIVER, SHAKE
...SOMEHOW OR OTHER,
I'LL ACT LIKE I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING
WHATEVER SO I DON'T WOUND HER PRIDE,
LICK
LICK
AH, GROOMING HERSELF TO FOOL ME...
LICK
LICK, LICK
IN A DREAM... WAS ME!?
SLURP
WHAT THE!? NEXT I KNEW, THE ONE BEING GROOMED,
THIS, TOO, IS LOVE...
I AM A KIND MASTER...
you must show kindness every day.
SHLURP...
So, as a keeper of cats,